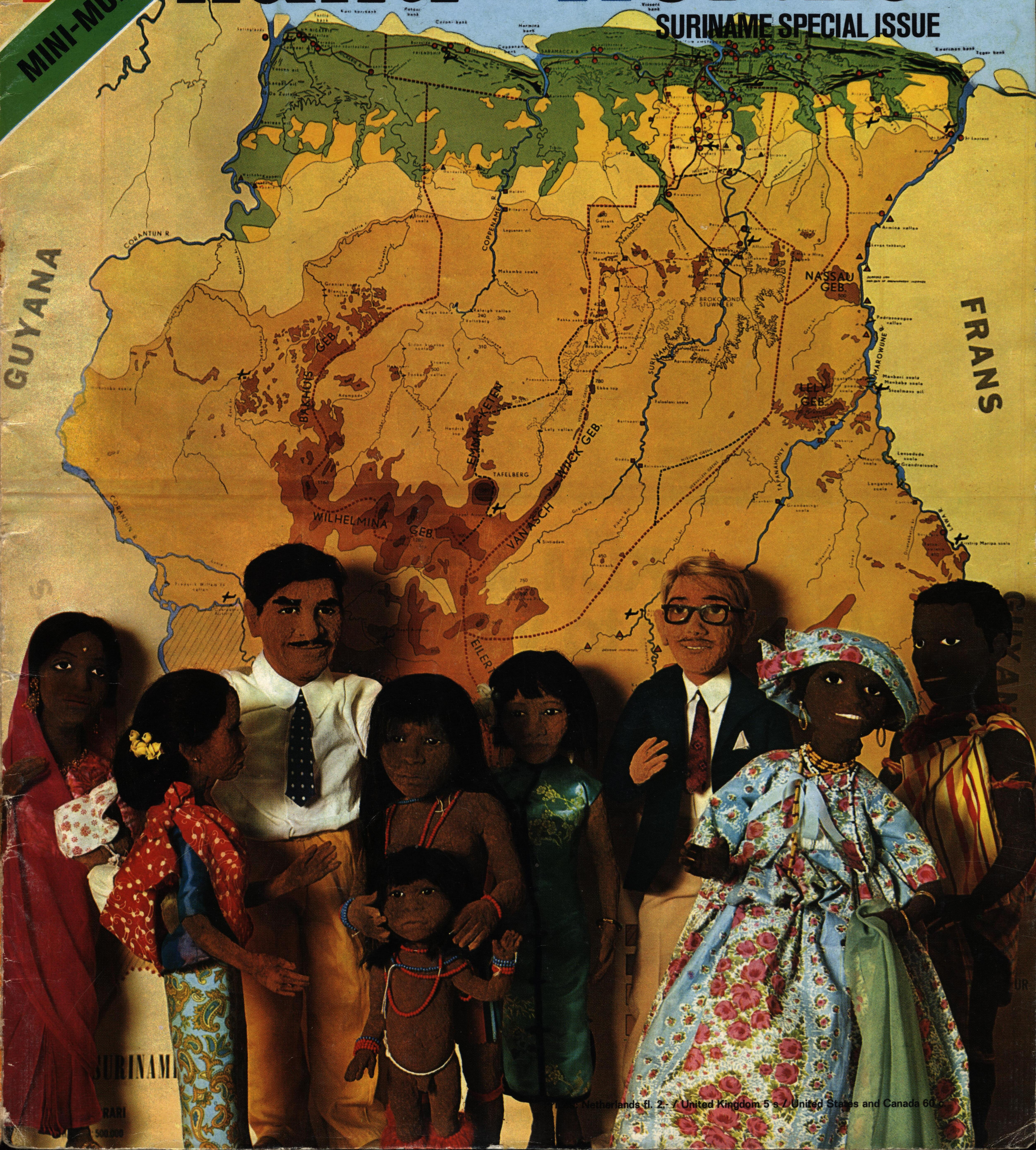
INTERNATIONAL EDITION

Holland Herald

SURINAME SPECIAL ISSUE

MINI-MODEL FOR THE WORLD



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Holland Herald

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■ As the deadline for our November issue approached, the scene in Holland Herald's editorial office was more frenetic than usual. Between writing last-minute stories and checking those glamorous fashion pages, deputy editor David Price and production editor Richard Wilson were cramming clothes and notebooks into suitcases before catching a KLM jet to Suriname — the subject of this month's special edition.

In the capital, Paramaribo, the Holland Herald team met up with publisher Jean-Jacques van Belle who had flown there after attending the Puerto Rico convention of the American Society of Travel Agents (the heartening observation from that trip was that, almost to a man, the delegates were keen Herald readers).

That same enthusiasm permeated all levels of society in Suriname. Despite some previous negative and uninformed treatment from overseas Press, including unfortunately some Dutch papers, Surinamers from Prime Minister Johan Pengel and Governor Ferrier down, opened their minds and their homes to Holland Herald. Government officials, businessmen and ordinary folk were happy to put the record straight and to let the rest of the world know about this rapidly-developing and exciting country.

The Holland Herald team, with the publisher occasionally doubling as a reporter, covered practically the whole of this country where people of different racial and religious backgrounds live together in an atmosphere of harmony possibly unequalled in the world. On one of these trips into the jungle — to a remote Bush Negro village called Drietabbetje some 200 miles south of the capital — our men were pleasantly surprised to see the Holland Herald pull-out from last year's Canada's Expo '67.

The growing importance of Suriname as an industrial, agricultural and tourist country is reflected in the stories we gleaned from people in this part of the Dutch Kingdom perched on the shoulder of the South American continent. Proud and industrious, the Suriname people of all races are determined to make their own future while still fiercely retaining their ties with Holland.

To capture the mood of the country and its people, our cover picture by Amsterdam's Jaspers Studios shows delicately-made dolls of Suriname's races by talented Saskia de Boer. The originals can be seen at the Sticusa foundation for cultural co-operation between Holland, the Netherlands Antilles and Suriname.

Still in the Suriname mood, may we wish everyone, advertisers and readers, the compliments of the season in the unique Suriname *takkie-takkie* language:

Swietie Krisnetie, Boeng Njoe Jari.

Thanks

■ A much-obliged Holland Herald this month breaks a rule to express appreciation for the co-operation it received in preparing this issue on Suriname. First of those who deserve special mention are the Suriname Minister Plenipotentiary, Dr. Walter Lim A Po and his staff and the Stichting tot Bevordering van Investeringen in Suriname (Foundation for the Promotion of Investments in Suriname), based in The Hague.

In Suriname itself, Mr. Ab Judell of the Dutch ANP news agency and businessman Mr. Edgar Wijngaarde were only two of the many people to whom the magazine is indebted.

This issue's colour sections were made possible with the help of the Suriname Government, Stichting Machinale Landbouw, Bruynzeel and Co., I.T.T., Kersten and Co., O.G.E.M., Suralco, Suriname Waterworks and the following insurance companies — American Life, ENNA N.V., Manufacturers Life, De Nationale, The Netherlands Insurance Co. (1845), N.E.N. and De OLVEH van 1879.

PUBLISHER JEAN-JACQUES VAN BELLE MEETS PREMIER JOHAN PENGEL IN PARAMARIBO

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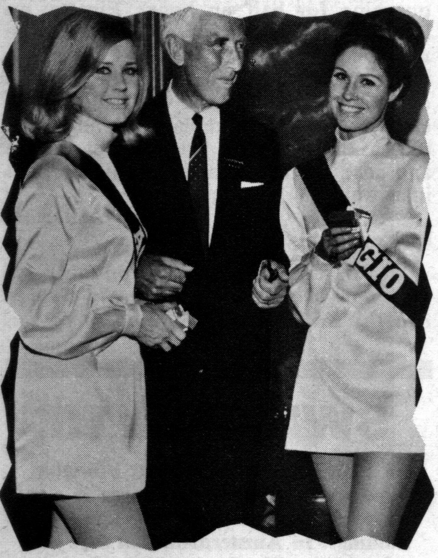
The picture that made DAD's blink



FLASHBACK: AUGUST BEAUTIES

■ DAD's International Division is expanding to include the UK. We will have use for publicity campaigns, press receptions etc., and would like to know who handled the placement of those two lovely girls at the Dutch cigar reception, as reported on Page 34 of your August issue.

GENE BERNS
DAD's Root Beer Company,
Chicago, Ill.

Name of girls' agent passed on — in sealed envelope. Strangely, Dads everywere seemed to find this picture appealing.

■ Thank you very much for your appreciative article concerning our restaurant. We added it to our collection of cuttings and distinctions of which we are very proud.

These appreciations of our guests are for us an inspiration to do our utmost to satisfy our clients, and for our guests they give hopeful thoughts for a delicious dinner.

Thanking you once more for your stimulating impression. We hope to meet you again in our restaurant.

Mevr. Mr. W. DE JONG-TAMMINGA VAN EYSINGA
Restaurant Tampat Senang,
The Hague.

■ My husband and I are both Dutch and would like our children to have Dutch names. Can you recommend any lists or pamphlets, to remind us of the full range?

A. HOFMAN
Gainesville, Florida.

The range of Dutch names is indeed subject to official approval. Two recommended books are "Woordenboek Voornamen" by Dr. J. V. D. Schaar (price about $1.10) and "Onze Voornamen" by J. A. Meijers and J. C. Luitingh (price about $1.50), both available via Van Gelderen NV, 142 NZ Voorburgwal, Amsterdam.

■ My wife (Dutch) and I (English) look forward each month to Holland Herald. It's a fine way of keeping in touch with home news.

There are approximately 200 Dutch nationals in Jamaica and we send our copies of HH around after we have finished with them.

R. MARTIN RIDLER
Montego Bay, Jamaica.

■ My husband's Dutch ties go back to the first settlers in Brooklyn and I would like to know how to trace his family and city origins in Holland.

His ancestor Adrian Hereman arrived in New Amsterdam in 1650 with his wife Catherine Margits and their first two children, Joseph and Henry, who had been born in The Netherlands.

Can you give me the name of a company that could trace the Hegeman family from Amsterdam?

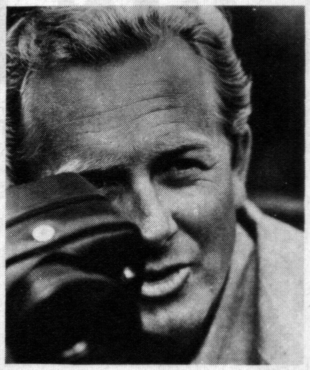
(Mrs.) JEANNE REETZ
St. Niklaas, W. Belgium.

Try: Nederlandse Genealogische Vereniging, Egstraat 35, Amsterdam, and/or Holland Society of New York, 122 East 58th Street, New York City.

■ Holland Herald's special issue on the Netherlands Antilles (Issue 6, 1967) did more to introduce me to the islands than any other book, or any travel brochure. It was our constant guide during the filming of "Barefoot in Wooden Shoes" and greatly influenced the choice of subject matter.

Perhaps at some future time I shall be fortunate enough to find another issue of Holland Herald to pave my way on another film destination.

IN ACTION IN CURAÇAO



Film man de la Varre

ANDRÉ DE LA VARRE
Croton-on-Hudson, NY.

Mr. de la Varre's film on the Netherlands Antilles was premiered recently at the Victor Theatre in New York and then went to the Lido Theatre, Los Angeles, for a 10-week run.

■ Never cross from England to the Continent of Europe by boat as a second-class passenger. You are treated like a

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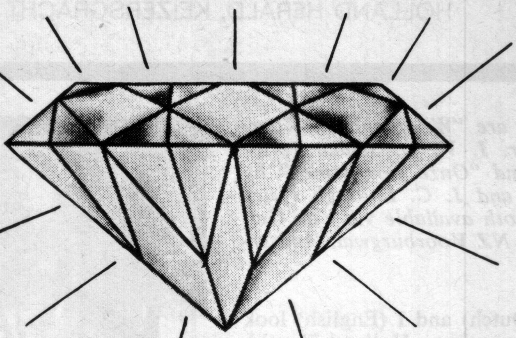

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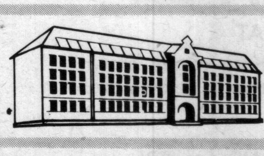


second-class citizen, at least at the height of the summer rush.

Our boat from Harwich to the Hook of Holland (you couldn't call it a ship or a liner even) seemed to devote two-thirds of its space to the fewer first-class passengers, and one-third to the predominant second-class.

The service was extremely off-hand, the bars and "restaurants" crowded beyond belief, and there was very little duty-free drink available for purchase ("we have run out of supplies", one was told after queueing for half an hour). Finally, we had to wait 1¼ hours for our car to be unloaded.

We travelled aboard one of the service's older boats, by day, but were told by the crew it will soon be replaced. About time, too, as long as new ideas about service and adequate accommodation are brought in as well.

L. DONALDSON

Bickley, Kent, England.

In fact, the older ships on this route have now been replaced by the St. George and the Koningin Juliana modern ferries.

SWISS MYTH

■ You ought to send your bilingual reporter to Switzerland to see if she is rooked there like we were this summer. In Amsterdam, you say, she "fumbled with change and asked to be swindled" but wasn't (Holland Herald, October 1968).

But just over the Swiss border I found that cafe bills suddenly started to add up to exactly 10. Sw. fr., or 20 Sw. fr. (without a bill actually being produced).

Some accommodations declared what service they would charge, others didn't and sprang the extra on us next morning. One place in Vitznau, Lucerne, charged more than the local tourist office quoted for them.

It was our first visit to Switzerland, which we believed to be the foremost tourist spot in Europe. Truly, for us, the exposure of the Swiss myth!

JOHN H. FRANZEN

Kingston, NY.

■ In European hotels the national basis for room charges may be either the room itself (as in France and in most other countries) or each bed (as in The Netherlands and in West Germany).

The second system is perhaps less logical than the first, but either works well as long as everybody knows which is being used.

The Dutch Tourist Information Offices (VVV) provide an excellent multilingual service, but do not always recognize that some foreigners are acquainted with only the first, or French, system.

Thus the nicely printed pamphlet listing Groningen province hotels advises tourists that charges include *"chambre et petit déjeuner."* This is a phrase which turns out to mean "bed and breakfast for one person" (though you would never find out by looking at the English key) but, which *could* mean, in the case of a double

room, "joint double-occupancy room charge plus breakfast for each guest."

An unwary couple might well find themselves paying twice as much as they had budgeted for — or even more than twice as much, since the same official guide neglects to mention the 15 % service charge which must be added to each quoted price.

Presumably it is too late to redesign any misleading 1969 pamphlets, but would it not be possible to get rid of all such loose ends by 1970?

DAVID DORRANCE

Dublin, Eire.

VVV tourist office Groningen comments: Mr. Durrance is right. It is a bit misleading, even for Frenchmen. However, when our new list comes out we shall endeavour to put things more clearly. We have taken the matter up with the ANVV, the Dutch National Tourist Board, and they are looking into it as well. Obviously it would be better both for tourists and the hotels themselves to standardise the charge descriptions.

■ Having recently spent a happy holiday in The Netherlands, I am desirous of learning more about this charming country and its people. Whom could I contact to get a Dutch pen-friend?

EDITH B. SEPHTON

St. Helens, Lanc.,
England.

We suggest: International Jeugdverkeer, Statenlaan 51, The Hague, The Netherlands.

■ I'm 25, a chemical technologist and member of the Youth Union of Yugoslavia. My interest is: "Life, work and recreation of youth" in all countries.

Can you send me some addresses from youth publications in your country?

ZDENKO KUCINIC

Zagreb, Yugoslavia.

Try: International Jeugdverkeer, address as in previous letter, or Vrij Vaart, Henry Polaklaan 14, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

■ We have read Holland Herald from time to time since its inception, but the family and myself would now like to get on your mailing list to avoid hit-and-miss chances of reading it in future.

While in Indonesia and Libya, etc., we got the magazine thanks to KLM. But now, in the US Virgin Islands, it is another story.

Our latest copy has been grabbed by neighbours and I have forgotten your subscription rate, but here is a cheque for $25 to pay for the magazine and postage till the money runs out.

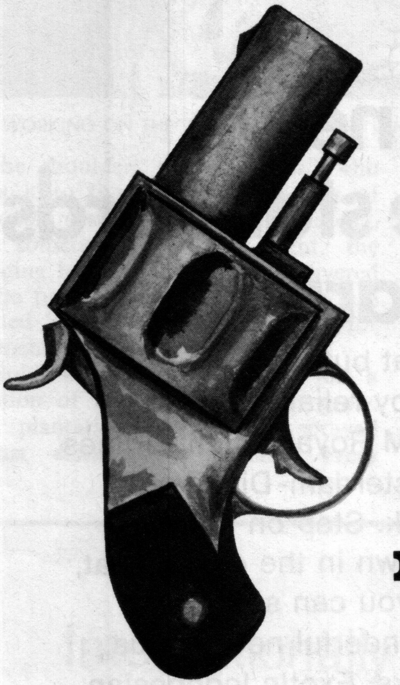
I am sure the magazine will be making the rounds of St. Croix once you get it coming to us regularly.

JOHN C. LINT

Christianstad, St. Croix.

■ What a great and (for me) nostalgic drawing of The Hague in your October issue. I could follow my route around the lovely city, street by street, and re-live some holiday hours.

But what was inaccurate about the



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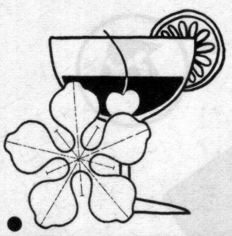

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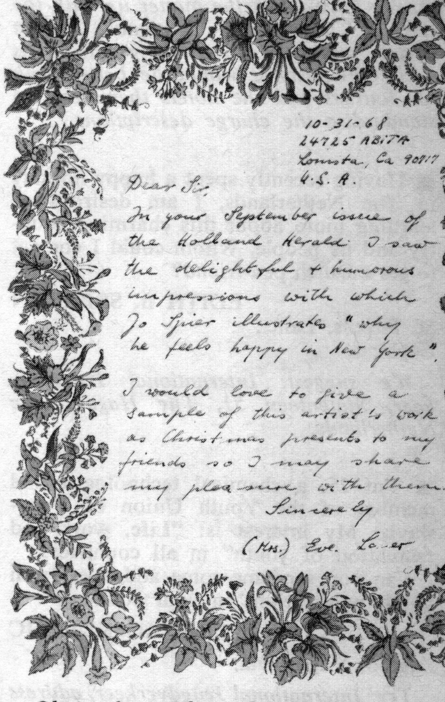
drawing? The lack of cars! Your artist cheated, no doubt about it, but at least he spared us the ugly sight of spoiling yet another beautiful city.

During a tour of the Continent this year I was appalled how one city after another is being destroyed by the car. Lucerne is now a madhouse of would-be parkers jostling each other for space; Innsbruck almost impassable, a constant motoring nightmare; and gorgeous Salzburg just ruined, a medieval city view marred by cellulosed metal.

At least your car-less drawing of The Hague keeps me happy. But when will authorities ban cars from historic city centres, as well as Holland Herald artists?

PETER JOHN WOODS
Sheffield 9,
England.



10-31-68
24725 ABITA
Lomita, Ca 90717
U.S.A.

Dear Sir,

In your September issue of the Holland Herald I saw the delightful + humorous impressions with which Jo Spier illustrates "why he feels happy in New York".

I would love to give a sample of this artist's work as Christmas presents to my friends so I may share my pleasure with them.

Sincerely

(Mrs.) Eve. [illegible]

Obviously, with such attractive note-paper, you go for eye-catchers. There's an eye-catching Jo Spier book that should suit you — and we've sent on price-and-where-to-buy details.

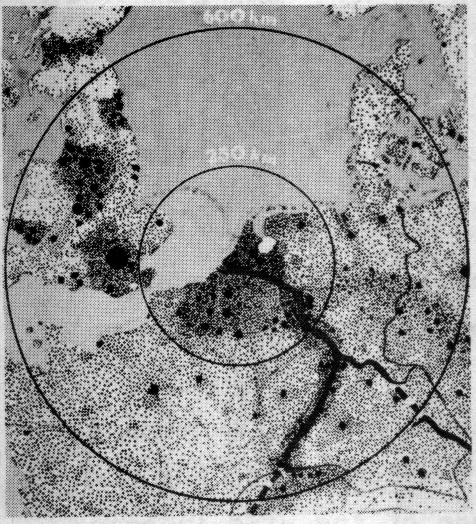
■ Tell me, tell me, your seductive advertisement for the Inter-Continental Hotel in Curaçao (September, 1968) stated: Round trip air fare only $150.

What's the name of the agency, send me tickets! I've got an aunt in Southern Australia who'll be interested in going to Curaçao too, at that price.

JOHN BENNETT
Royal Yacht Club,
Bombay.

Sorry, these rates only for New York and East Coasters!

■ Mr. Evert van Wassenaar, of Ladysmith, BC, Canada, writes in reply to a letter which appeared in our July edition that Mr. L. da Silva Curiel is not the editor of the Dutch-Canadian monthly De Dijk, which is... "registered at the law-court in Calgary with the proprietory rights to Evert and Carolien van Wassenaar."



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ROYAL DUTCH AIRLINES

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER,
PARAMARIBO,
SURINAME.

The Suriname population is comprised of many races, but notwithstanding the heterogeneous composition, there is in no respect, racial discrimination.

On the contrary, the various ethnic groups, in complete harmony, work hand in hand towards the development of our country. In the heartlands of our forests the roar of the wild is being matched by the roar and drive of modern industry. Bauxite, aluminium, timber and agriculture are only the cream of industry in this land of milk and honey.

There are many opportunities for investment in Suriname. Investment in a stable country with a stable government. Investment in the future of a growing market area for the Americas and investment with a potentially increasing market in the Common Market countries.

But our country has more to offer than the work-a-day world of business and commerce. Our interior with its mighty rivers and rapids is a tourist paradise. We have a unique population, ranging from the original Amerindians through Bush Negroes, Creoles, Chinese, Hindustanis, Javanese, Lebanese to Europeans of whom the majority are Dutch. All of these people are part of the country.

Therefore, I am happy to see in this issue of Holland Herald that readers all over the world will recognise that Suriname is, and will be, a land of tolerance and prosperity, a land with many possibilities.

To all, be they tourists or potential investors in our country, may I extend the local welcome:
Mi breti foe si joe

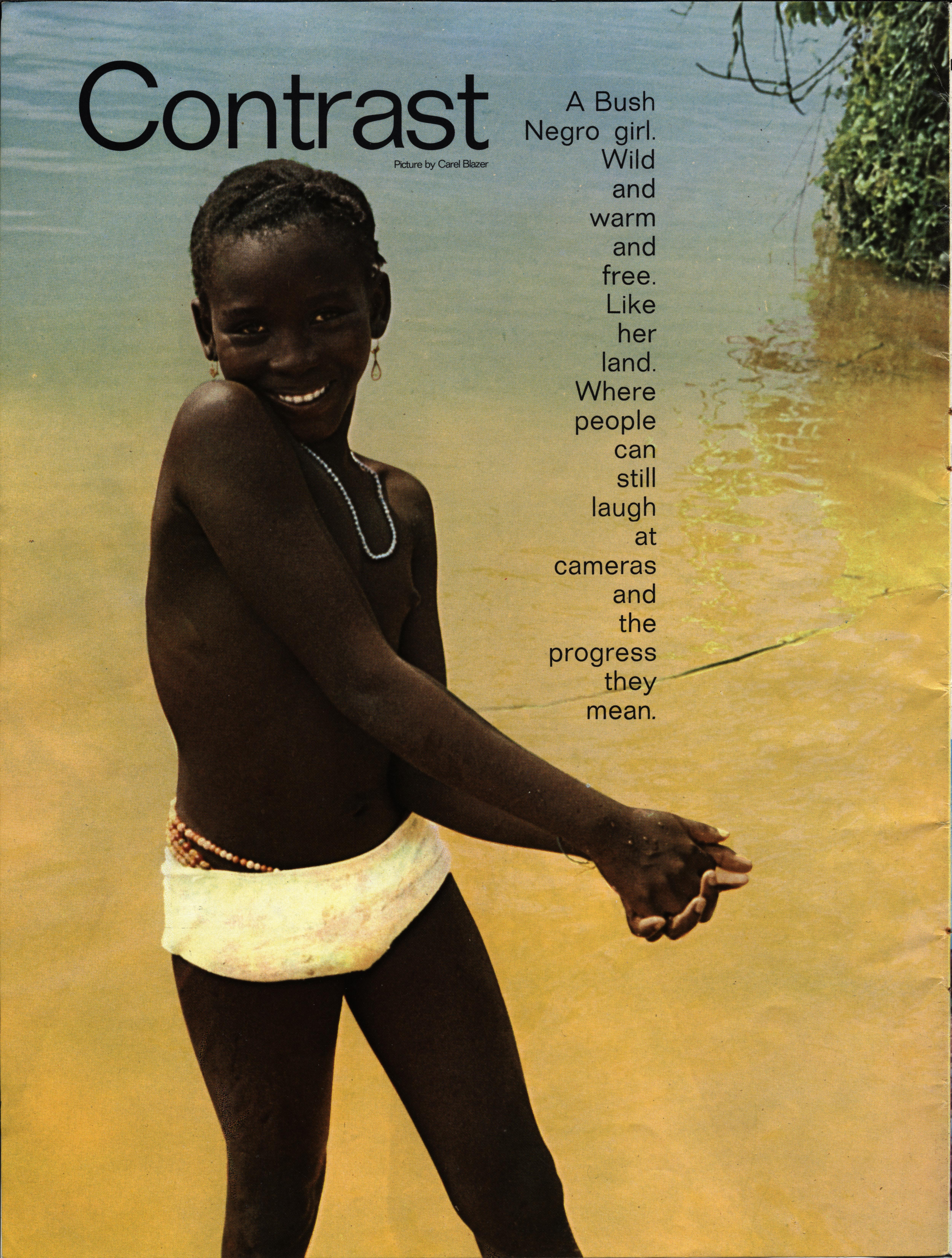
Or, I am looking forward to seeing you.

Johan A. Pengel

Contrast

Picture by Carel Blazer

A Bush Negro girl. Wild and warm and free. Like her land. Where people can still laugh at cameras and the progress they mean.



SURALCO'S AFOBAKA DAM

But where other people are building great monuments to it. Such is the contrast of Suriname, as yesterday meets tomorrow.

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Gold-winning the old way and the new

Building this style and that

Industry by hand, industry by excavator

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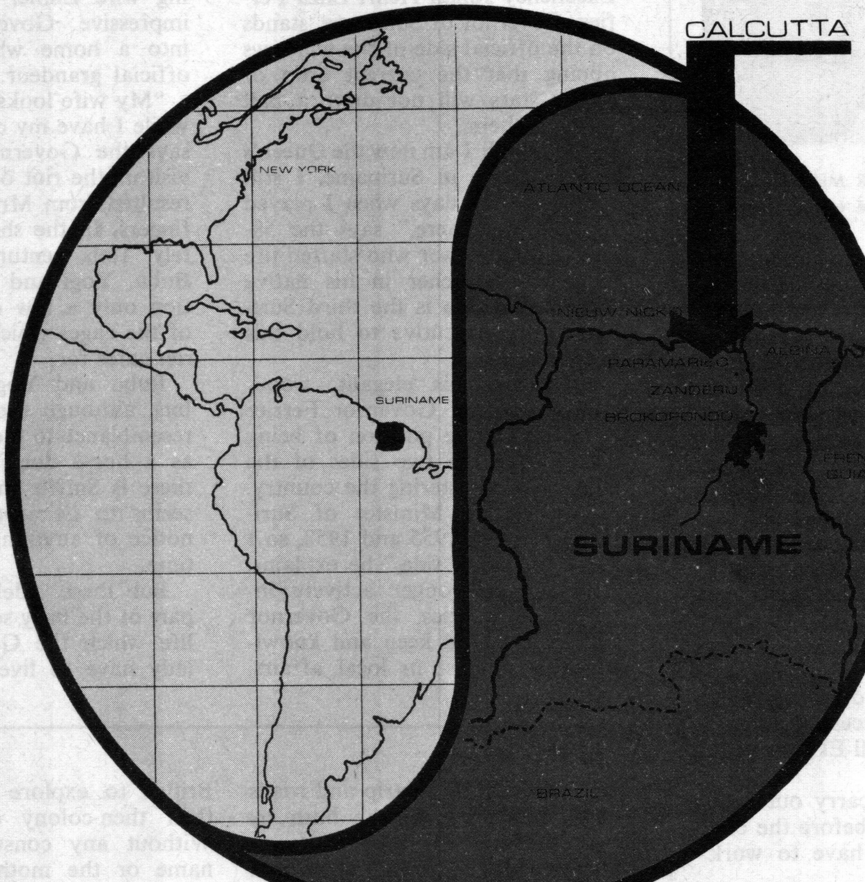
CURRENT AFFAIRS



Green light that could signal an oil boom

■ The small Suriname coastal village of Calcutta has, for centuries, lived in the oblivion of a swamp. But from now on, it seems possible that Calcutta will go down in history as the place where the Suriname Government, looking for water, accidentally struck oil which could lead to a new, multi-million dollar industry for the country.

The go-ahead for oil exploration has now been given to Royal Dutch Shell by the Suriname Government and drilling is expected to start by the end of February in a concession area of more than a million acres.

The initial 40-year agreement was drawn up in long discussions by top Shell concession lawyer Professor Piet Schierbeek who, with oilman Edward van der Meulen, spent several months in Paramaribo discussing the project with the Government. "We will pay the Suriname Government about $600,000 for the first year. We hope to drill 20 test wells in the first two years. The rate of income tax has been fixed at 50 per cent which means that half the profit will go to Suriname. In addition, we will pay the Government 12½ per cent of the value of the oil worked back to the well-head whether we make a profit or not. I think it is a fair deal for the Suriname Government," says Professor Schierbeek.

Ironically, it was this same Professor Schierbeek who, then a Dutch Government official, was invited by the Suriname Government 15 years ago to help draw up the country's mineral policy. "When I came to negotiate the present agreement, I found myself confronted with these rules."

Although neither Shell nor anyone else can be certain that Suriname has oil in commercial quantities, van der Meulen is one man who can find it if it is there, having been in Gabon, West Africa, around the time when big deposits were found.

He says: "Some oil has been found near Calcutta. That is a fact. But we know practically nothing about Suriname's coastal area, and we have to

find out in the coming years." Local contractors will be used as much as possible in bush-clearing and other early work.

Says van der Meulen who will be the

SCHIERBEEK, VAN DER MEULEN
After the negotiation, the exploitation

manager of the exploration venture: "Our first aim is exploration. Then we will make up our minds."

One company which is still making up its mind is the French ELF oil firm which has been working a 100,000 square kilometres off-shore concession since 1965. ELF originally shared the concession with Colmar Petroleum which has since sold out to Shell, though ELF are still the operators.

ELF's man in Paramaribo is Dutch lawyer Albert Koetsier who cagily says: "I cannot say whether we have found oil or not. We did some geophysical work and then in 1966 we did three off-shore drillings. This year we will probably start some drillings in the swamps within our concession area." Up to now, the joint Shell-ELF venture has cost some $8m.

Next step will be to carry out four more off-shore drillings before the end of 1971. "We will just have to work and see," says Koetsier.

At home with the Governor

■ Apart from the occupants, little has changed in and around Government House in Paramaribo. Lovers still stroll in the shady palm woods behind the Governor's residence and little boys still play an energetic game of soccer on the green lawns that surround the building.

Fifty years ago a keen youngster, Johan Ferrier, belted the ball with the best of them. Today, His Excellency Johan Henri Eliza Ferfier, Governor of Suriname, stands on the official side of the windows hoping that the current crop of soccer stars will not drive a ball through them.

"Although I am now the Queen's representative in Suriname, I still remember the days when I played football out there," says the 58-year-old Governor who started life as a schoolteacher in his native Paramaribo. He is the third Suriname-born executive to hold this high office.

But from his elegant, wood-panelled office, Governor Ferrier is in the unique position of being able to see the two sides of the coin of administering the country. "I was Prime Minister of Suriname between 1955 and 1958, so I know the other side," he explains. Although no longer actively involved in politics, the Governor still maintains a keen and knowledgeable interest in local affairs, especially education and youth organisations.

Before taking office in April of this year, Governor Ferrier had been a director, for two years, of the Dutch Billiton mining company. But now he ,and his charming wife Edmé, have turned the impressive Governor's residence into a home while retaining its official grandeur.

"My wife looks after the garden while I have my own private zoo," says the Governor as he shows visitors the riot of colour that has resulted from Mrs. Ferrier's green fingers. In the shadow of the stately 18th century mansion live Bubu, Yogi and Sniffle, to mention only a few of the occupants of the cages which Governor Ferrier cares for.

Bubu and Yogi are wild rabbits, although they bear as much resemblance to the domestic rabbit as a horse does to a gnu. Then there is Sniffle the tapir who just seems to lie around taking little notice of anything except feeding time.

But these sidelines are just a part of the busy social and official life which the Governor and his lady have to live as the Queen's

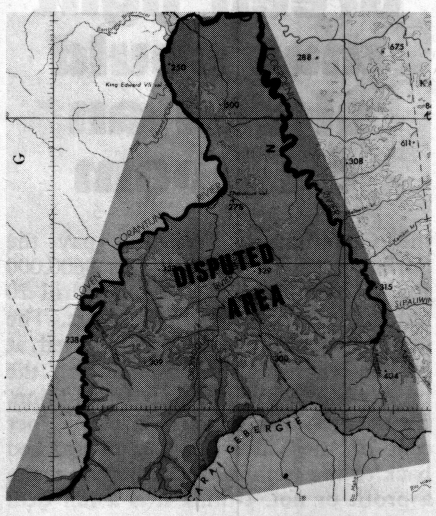
The eternal triangle

■ The discovery of vast, new resources of bauxite (aluminium ore) in West Suriname has not only assured the country of a rich, developing future but also incidentally highlighted the niggling, nagging and needless border dispute with neighbouring Guyana.

As a profound Government statement put it earlier this year, the border difference "demonstrates the wholesome nationalism of the entire nation, on which the Suriname Government may rely for the further maintenance and defence of the integrity of Suriname territory."

Although the area in dispute is, at the moment, practically all thick jungle, the rivers that run through it are vital for the hydro-electric projects which will be necessary for the development of integrated alumina production and aluminium smelting after the bauxite is mined. Already an airstrip and roads have been hewn out of the bush by Suriname Government men and new projects are about to go into operation.

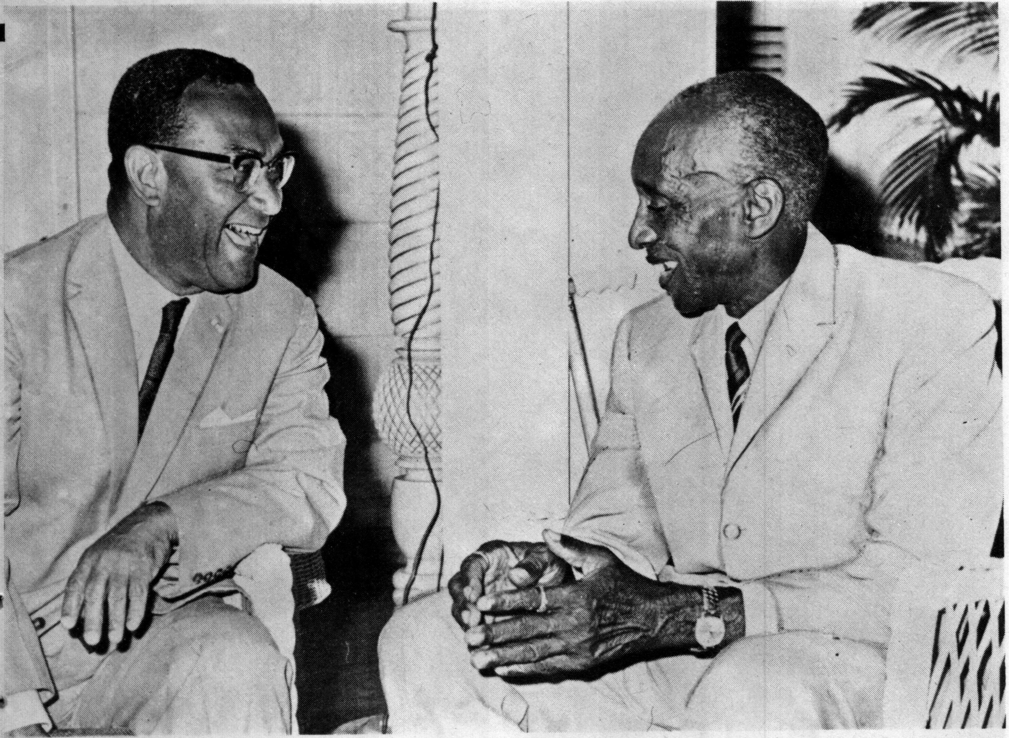
The 15,000-square kilometer dispute is very much one of now and then. The annoyance now is the result of confusion and dithering then — between 1834 and 1840. A German, Robert Schomburgk, was sent by the British to explore the boundaries of their then-colony of British Guiana. Without any consultation with Suriname or the mother-country of The Netherlands, Schomburgk mapped his findings giving the Coeroeni River as the boundary.



But, in fact, the Coeroeni flowed into the more westerly Corantijn River, the source of which was later discovered, ironically by an Englishman, Barrington-Brown, in 1871. This Upper Corantijn proved to be twice the size of the Coeroeni and it is Suriname's well-documented case that it is the border between the two countries.

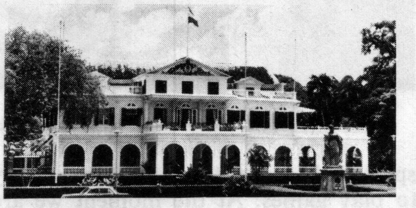
Protest and counter-protest followed each other through the early 1900's. But maps of both parties have proved that the triangle of land is Suriname territory and the Dutch Government has never approved any treaty giving the Guyana proposals.

Things took a turn for the better in 1964 when "harmonious" talks took place in London between the Guyanese and Suriname Governments over the vexing problem. Suriname version of these discussions was put "as good friends and neighbours, the delegations



GRANMAN ABOINKONIE (RIGHT) PAYS A "FRIENDLY CALL" ON THE GOVERNOR — AT HIS HOME

representative in Suriname. In view of the economic and social development that has taken place in Suriname during and since the Governor's term of office as Prime Minister, it is no wonder he is able to say confidently: "I believe we have a great future."



parted as good friends to resume the discussions at a future date."

It is now a matter of regret that these talks did not come off and that the Guyanese decided physically to move into Suriname territory just a year ago. The incidents of landings by armed Guyanese police in Suriname territory can do nothing but exacerbate a situation that should have been resolved more than 100 years ago.

"It is certain that Suriname in any proceedings, be it before an arbitration board or the International Court of Justice, may rely on the validity of its juridical, historic and geographic arguments, and those based on the principle of the law of nations."

Into the unknown

■ Like some slumbering Gulliver, Suriname has, in the past few years, slowly awakened to the fact that there's gold in them there tourists. But economics being what they are, to expand you have to expend.

Seeking financial help for the development of tourism in the country, the Suriname Government got together with The Netherlands Government. Before deciding how much money Holland would provide, Vice-Premier Joop Bakker sent one of the top Economic Ministry experts, George Wijsen, on a survey trip to Suriname.

Wijsen, Director General at the Ministry, has now completed his report which is being considered by the Suriname Government.

Although the contents of his report are not yet public, Wijsen was able tc reveal some of the guide-lines of his survey. "There is no doubt about the possibility of promoting tourism in the future in a substantial way."

Realising Suriname's haves and have-nots, Wijsen says there is no future for resort-type tourism in the country, but it has more to offer and is more interesting for the tourist who is looking for adventure in the unknown."

The country could well be divided into separate zones, each having its own particular attractions. "First, Paramaribo. Although it is an interesting town and the base for tourists, things have to be done to make it more attractive. Then there is the area around the capital, especially Fort New Amsterdam. Also in this area are the Jodensavannah, the town and river at Albina, the newly-created lake at Brokopondo and the Coronie district.

"Then there is the inland bush zone, making full use of the airstrips built for Operation Grasshopper, and also canoe trips along the rivers."

Wijsen realises that the build-up of

The Granman

NOT EXACTLY AT HOME (IN A CITY SUIT) BUT WITH THE GOVERNOR TOO

■ Granman (chief) Aboinkonie of Suriname's biggest Bush Negro tribe had to admit it. He may have been suited for the city (in a light grey) but he certainly wasn't suited to it.

To see his son Michel off to Holland to study, he had made the reluctant trip from the interior to the noisy civilisation of Paramaribo, where he took the opportunity to pay "a friendly call" on Governor Johann Ferrier.

Rare though such visits are, the Government makes allowance for them by providing town houses for the Bush Negro hierarchy — evidence, if that were needed, of its wish to maintain happy relations with the four friendly but autonomous tribes, the Saramaccaners, the Aukaners, the Paramaccaners, and the Matuariers.

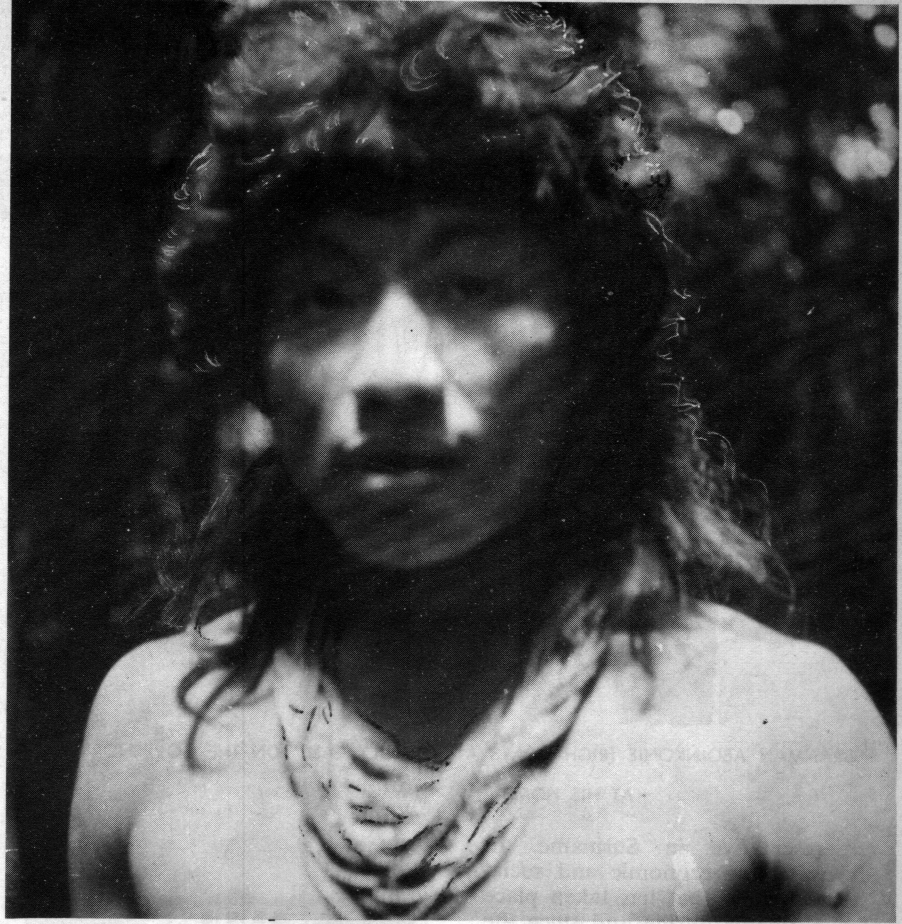
After his visit to the Governor, Granman Aboinkonie of the 16,000-strong Saramaccaners, wearing a pair of baseball boots, two shirts, turned-up trousers, a black tie and a wise and gentle smile, relaxed in his town house and talked through his captain (a courtesy) and an interpreter (a necessity, as he speaks only the African-based Saramaccaans) about his impressions of town life.

"It's all right for a holiday," he said, "but I was born and raised in the interior and I could never be happier than I am there." But the Granman is neither intolerant or ignorant about the benefits of civilisation — last year, for instance, he had to be sent to Holland and hospitalised during a serious illness. He met Queen Juliana then.

What he is intolerant about is the Vietnam war. He had a thing or two to say about that: "All this killing is senseless. I don't know why such civilised people can't understand each other. In the interior, if one man wants to fight another and can't do it by hand, he picks up a weapon. So he is stopped before the other is forced to do the same."

And, knocking on the table before him, the Granman — who thinks he is "about 78 years old" — added: "If you break a table like this, you can build another. You cannot rebuild a life."

tourism must, of necessity, take time. "You have to start making publicity at least one year before you start offering things and the first of these things is good hotel accommodation. You must find new *entrepreneurs* to build new hotels."



THE FACE OF A FIND: WHITE, BECAUSE "THEY HIDE AWAY UNDER THE TREES"

Sporting goal: Suriname United

■ In his youth Suriname's Prime Minister Pengel was an enthusiastic soccer player. It was not surprising, therefore, that the country's sport has been a matter of Government concern since 1963.

Explains Jules van Eijken, 36, manager of the Foundation for the Development of Sport: "In 1963 the Government made sport a national affair and since then has spent a lot of money on it. As a result we have a pretty high standard". Just how high was proved at the Mexico Olympics when Suriname sprinter Eddy Monsels took his place proudly with the Dutch team.

But Association Football or soccer is the national sport. "Although all our football is amateur, we do take part in the World Cup competition and the Olympic Games," says van Eijken. Some Suriname players have, in fact, proved good enough to cross the ocean to play for Dutch league teams. For top Suriname league matches, say between teams like Transvaal and Robin Hood, anything up to 8,000 people flock to the spacious Paramaribo Stadium. "So popular has soccer become that people are asking for a second stadium to be built. But first we will have to make a survey to see if it really justifies the expense," says the cash-conscious Foundation manager.

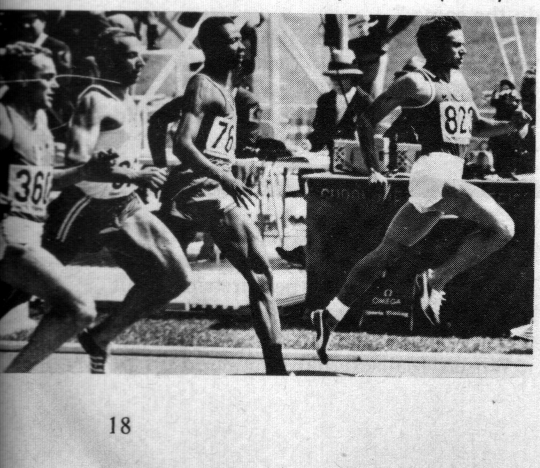
But not all Suriname youngsters are devotees of ball-belting. Growing in popularity every year are badminton, athletics, cycling and basketball, while girls are taking to the swimming pools in ever-increasing numbers.

"Our foundation," says van Eijken, "aims to get more people interested in sport and to give them the opportunity to play games. At the moment we are building a sports centre in the south of Paramaribo to train future sports leaders and coaches. Apart from getting help from the Government, we also get a lot of co-operation from Suralco, the aluminium producers. In addition to spending a lot of money on sports activities, Suralco also give their employees time off to attend our leadership courses."

In western Suriname a strange phenomenon has occurred in sporting life. There, despite the border dispute with Guyana (see Current Affairs) the people enjoy the mysterious game of cricket as much as any local on an English village green. Explaining the isolated popularity of cricket, van Eijken says: "Being so near Guyana, our people naturally got interested in the game which was brought there during the time of the British. It shows that sport knows no boundaries".

Border disputes apart, there is a still more serious purpose behind the sports organisation in Suriname. Says van Eijken: "Each of the racial groups here has its own culture, beliefs and way of life, including sporting activities. They regard these as a sort of holy house. What we are trying to do, through sport, is to bring all the Suriname people together, to break down the walls of that holy house".

FIRST FOR SURINAME, AT LEAST
Olympic sprinter Eddy Monsels (centre)



Found – the 'extinct' Paleface Indians

■ No-one had made contact with them for 30 years, and the story of the Stone Age Akoedi tribe of "paleface" Indians had grown more elaborate with every year they were not spotted. Experts considered them to be extinct. Other Indian tribes spoke of them in the kind of phrases that make legends: "Strong, fierce giants of men with white skin."

The missionaries of the Suriname Interior Fellowship had seen it as their task to find out the truth. Three expeditions into the deep Suriname jungle — in 1965, 66 and 67 — failed to unearth the tribe but did turn up some exciting clues, such as footprints, used camp-sites and left-behind pottery. As S.I.F. missionary Claude Leavitt says: "The jungle is large but you can't live in it without leaving signs."

By the end of the '67 expedition, evidence of the tribe's continued existence was overwhelming, and the trail was getting hotter. It was about a year later that two motorised canoes of Christian Indians, supplying a mapping team deep down in the South-East of the country near the Brazil border, chugged up the Waremapan Creek on their way to restock. Nothing unusual about that. In fact, it was becoming such a regular sight to the eyes peering

through the foliage on the banks that fear was being replaced by curiosity.

The mysterious eyes, and ears, had been too preoccupied with the outboard motors to register the presence of another canoe, travelling quietly with paddles, close behind. The Indians on this canoe saw the stir in the bushes, thought it was caused by wild pigs, and two of them jumped out to give chase. Meanwhile, the canoe rounded a bend and the remaining crew came face-to-face with the Palefaces, just as the others caught them up.

Communication was difficult at first. The Christian Indians couldn't make themselves understood in their native Wayana language, but as they jabbered to each other, it became apparent that the Akoedis spoke a form of the Trio language, of which some of the Christian Indians had a little knowledge.

Misisonary Ivan Schoen, one of the first of the Interior Fellowship to make contact with the new tribe, tells how it happened: "The Indians who found them came immediately to the mission station to tell us. We didn't waste any time getting out after them, but they had already moved on. We tried again and again but could only find their stone tools. Then, on the fourth attempt, we finally came across them."

How accurate was the "legend"? "There were 28 of them, completely nomadic — hunters and gatherers; shy but not fierce; well-built but not any larger than the average Indian," says Schoen. "But they were certainly very white-skinned, probably because they hide away so much under the trees. Their skin doesn't often get the sun — and it looks as if it gets even less water. They eat fish, meat, honey and the heart of the wild palm tree."

Just returned from second contact with the Akoedis, Americans Schoen, 37, and Leavitt, 44, have made the mission's intention clear: "To teach the tribe how to read and write their own language, as we do with the others, and then pass on the teachings of the Bible. We have left five Christian Trio Indians with them, to try to find out if there is any pattern to their wanderings

"Also, as these Indians had no cultivated fields, we are teaching them farming too. So that, within a year perhaps, they may have become less nomadic — and our missionary work will be more effective."

Justification for the fellowship (34 missionaries all told) going to such trouble over so few, so inaccessible: "The Lord said: 'Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel'. There are many other reasons, but that is our basic obligation. People in urban areas have the opportunity to hear the word of God by going to church or switching on the radio. But there are not many chances for the primitive peoples. We feel we should at least provide them with a chance."

BELOW: CLOSE-UP OF A SCUTTLE

ABOVE: AND HOW IT FELL SHORT

The Current Affair

■ By one of those odd quirks of fate, an intended act of sabotage during the last World War has indirectly resulted in Paramaribo getting a new harbour for its ever-increasing trade with the rest of the world.

"It was back in 1940," recalls assistant harbourmaster John Wong-A-Ton. "The German freighter *Gosslar* heard that war had been declared before the people in Paramaribo and she was scuttled in the harbour to prevent the export of bauxite, vital for the production of aircraft."

But the unpredictable currents took over from there. Instead of blocking the harbour of the Suriname capital, the upturned hulk diverted the Amazon-mud-carrying currents so that they carved out round the wreck a new, deep-water berth which is now to be the new harbour.

"Instead of hindering, it helped", says Wong-A-Ton. To this day, while the million-dollar construction work goes on, the *Gosslar* is still visible — a forlorn reminder of a good ship wasted. "Before the end of this year," says the assistant harbourmaster, "we hope to get the new harbour apron, of some half-mile in length, in operation."

Financed mainly by funds of the Common Market (of which Suriname is an associate member), the new harbour will centralise warehousing and customs facilities to cater for ships up to 26,000 tons, depending on the vagaries of the spring tides.

The growth of Suriname as a trading country and of Paramaribo as its major port is reflected in the increase in the number of ships handled. Says Wong-A-Ton: "In 1950, for instance, we had 572 ships. Last year there were 1,674". In tonnage this represents a difference, between the same years, of 1,200,000 and more than 6,000,000.

"There is a more than visible difference. Even if the number of ships may not increase, their capacity does." Now, even the predominantly cargo-handling harbours of Suriname are looking forward to a greater number of tourist ships arriving.

As a final footnote to that war story about the *Gosslar*, Wong-A-Ton relates a story worthy of *The Last of the Mohicans*. "When the ship was scuttled, the German crew was interned and put in a camp in the interior. Some time later they escaped into the jungle. To recapture them Amerindians were sent into the jungle. They were all brought back."

PREMIER PENGEL

Whatever the future status of Suriname, the ties with Holland will be perpetuated

■ In any young country confidence in the future is the cornerstone of progress and prosperity. The Suriname Government has this confidence in abundance — derived from a wealth of natural resources ranging from minerals to timber and hydro-electric projects.

Says Press man George Hering: "The forests contain a variety of timber and its many rivers are a splendid potential for hydro-electric power. Of late the development of these natural resources has been considerably intensified. With modern methods and a progressive Government policy, new areas have been opened for agricultural development."

But it is on minerals, principally bauxite (aluminium ore), that Suriname depends most heavily. The country has the only integrated aluminium plant in the world where the mined ore is processed to alumina and smeltered to aluminium in the same operation. Recent bauxite discoveries in West Suriname will eventually lead to production of electric power up to an estimated capacity of 870,000 kilowatts.

"Negotiations with interested aluminium companies — all the great companies in the world like ALCOA, ALCAN, Billiton ORMET, Kaiser, Péchiney and Reynolds Metal — have reached the stage at which early operations are expected."

In addition to the mining development in West Suriname, forestry will also get a boost. A Government committee is discussing with the Dutch Bruynzeel company the working of this newly-available abundance of timber. "Proof of the great importance the Government attaches to the development of West Suriname may be found in the fact that, since 1964, more than $30m. has been spent in infrastructural measures in the area," says Hering. Priority was given to the building of an airfield — the country's second largest — to speed up the transport of heavy equipment.

"In agriculture the up-coming expansion of the cultivation area in the framework of the Five Year Plan — including mechanical rice cultivation — and European Economic Community aid, deserves mentioning. The Five Year Plan entails investments of some $70m. Of this amount, 50 per cent is an outright gift from Holland, 40 per cent is a loan at the exceptionally low rate of 3 per cent interest and 10 per cent at current value."

■ Although Suriname's Prime Minister, Mr. Johan A. Pengel, rarely gives Press interviews, he left an important Cabinet meeting to meet Holland Herald Publisher Jean-Jacques van Belle in Paramaribo. Through his Press chief, George P. Hering, the Prime Minister also answered a series of questions put by the magazine.

Other agricultural projects now being planned include the expansion of the successful banana cultivation and oil-palm growing in the Brokopondo District.

Only a few weeks ago Prime Minister Pengel led a Suriname Government delegation on a European visit. Principal result was agreement with the major aluminium companies on many points leading to the fact that shortly 75 per cent of the bauxite mined in Suriname will be processed to alumina.

Explains Hering: "Negotiations will be resumed shortly and the purchase of electric power in West Suriname will be settled.

"Negotiations with the Kaiser/Péchiney combination, which will primarily purchase electric power, will also be resumed shortly. It is expected that around the same time, negotiations with Reynolds Metals about the purchase of electric power, exploration for, and mining of, bauxite, also the processing to alumina and aluminium will be finalized."

Breaking his return trip in New York, Mr. Pengel received a letter from National South Wire Aluminium of the United States expressing interest in a bauxite concession, the construction of an alumina plant with a 500,000-ton capacity and the possibility of building an aluminium smelter near their eventual bauxite mines.

The Prime Minister also held talks in London about the financing of the $250m. Ananavero (West Suriname) project.

In Holland the Prime Minister concluded an agreement for the payment of some $19m. from Five Year Plan funds for 1969. Discussions on the financing of the Plan will probably

continue next month during a visit by Holland's Vice-Premier Jan Bakker and Finance Minister Witteveen.

The European visit also resulted in a loan, on favourable terms, of more than $1m. for the construction of warehouses and bonded stores.

Asked what Suriname had to offer prospective investors, Hering replied: "Tax, tariff and profit transfer inducements, along with developed know-how in agricultural and food processing research. The availability of low-cost skilled labour. A democratic Government, politically and financially stable, with a favourable balance of payments position.

"Suriname, situated on the north east coast of South America, is in close proximity to Caribbean and Latin American markets. Being an associate member of the EEC, Suriname benefits from import duty exemptions to the six market countries. This country is also within the Western Hemisphere Trade Corporations area."

The Government sees tourism as a future source of income and examples Suriname's varied ethnic groups living in complete harmony. Quoting Time magazine, Hering says that Suriname is a "Land of Smiling Faces" where the people live in happy co-existence, a shining example to the world.

"To further develop tourism, we need much more publicity — which is expensive. We need more flights to Suriname and lower plane fares. The Government plans to build (in addition to its 34 airstrips for small craft) long airstrips in the Interior to accommodate international jets so that visitors can enjoy the beauty of the rain forests and sportsmen may fish and hunt to their heart's content." is the official view.

Perhaps the most exciting new development in Suriname is the possibility of an oil industry. The Suriname Government has now signed an agreement with Royal Dutch Shell to explore for crude oil in the coastal area of the country.

"Several years ago promising indications of crude oil were discovered on land. Further explorations to determine whether the oil is present in commercially feasible quantities are in progress. The same applies to off-shore explorations where ELF Petroleum Suriname Corp., a subsidiary of the French Enterprise de Recherche et d'Activitées Petrolières, hold the concession."

But on one major point Prime Minister Pengel, together with his government and people, are unanimous — the relationship with Holland. Says Hering: "Relations with Holland are splendid in all respects. Whatever the future status of Suriname may be, the historical ties with Holland will be perpetuated. Also relations with the Common Market countries are excellent."

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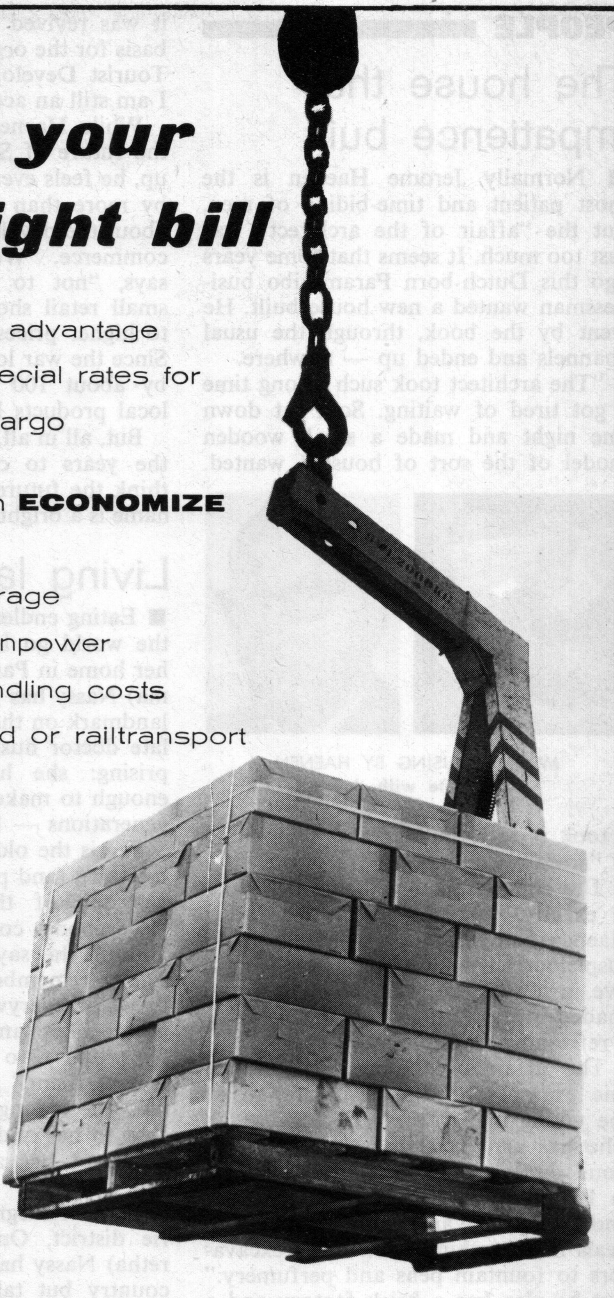

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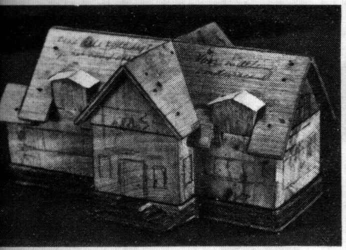
PEOPLE

The house that impatience built

■ Normally Jerome Haenen is the most patient and time-biding of men, but the "affair of the architect" was just too much. It seems that some years ago this Dutch-born Paramaribo businessman wanted a new house built. He went by the book, through the usual channels and ended up — nowhere.

"The architect took such a long time I got tired of waiting. So I sat down one night and made a small wooden model of the sort of house I wanted.



MODEL HOUSING BY HAENEN
Complete with dogs

I took it to a builder and said 'build it'," recalls Haenen.

The contractor copied the tiny model exactly, with the result that today Haenen and his family (including two suspiciously-friendly bull terrier dogs) live in a spacious, cool wooden house shaded by flowering trees and boasting a refreshing swimming pool.

The affair of the architect is but one example of the get-up-and-go of the young man from 's Hertogenbosch who has arrived at most of his ambitious destinations. "I started business in Paramaribo in 1922 for my father and I now have an import centre which deals in everything from earth excavators to fountain pens and perfumery." But he also has a brick factory and a plant supplying the whole of Suriname with oxygen, acetylene and hydrogen.

Recognition of this commercial ability came when Haenen, now 66, was made president of the Suriname Business Association. Formed in 1948, the Association was designed to look after the interests of those bigger commercial firms, industries and agriculture who may not have been adequately served by the Chamber of Commerce. "Although the idea is to look after those interests, the development of the country comes first. Trade takes second place," says the now ex-president.

Perhaps the least known of Haenen's activities, even in Suriname, is his long and strong belief in the tourist possibilities of the country. "I started the first Tourist Development Association back in 1933," he recalls. "At that time we printed the first little booklet about tourism in Suriname, but it was put to sleep during the last war. After the war it was revived and was, I believe, the basis for the organisation of the present Tourist Development Board, of which I am still an acting president."

While Haenen is a firm believer in the future of Suriname's tourist build-up, he feels even more strongly, backed by more than 40 years of experience, about the development of the country's commerce. "We must be careful," he says, "not to open too many more small retail shops. This can only lead to higher prices for almost everything. Since the war local wages have gone up by about 100 per cent and price of local products has risen with them."

But, all in all, Haenen is happy about the years to come. His forecast? "I think the future for commerce in Suriname is a bright one."

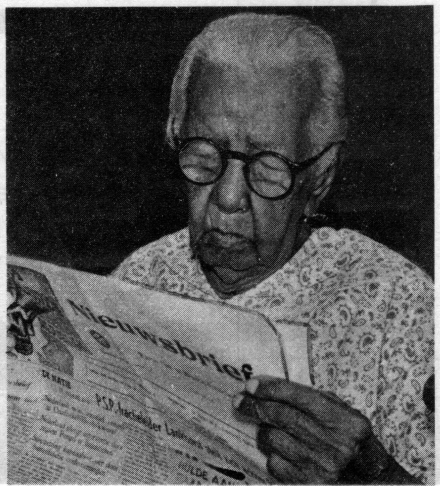
Living landmark

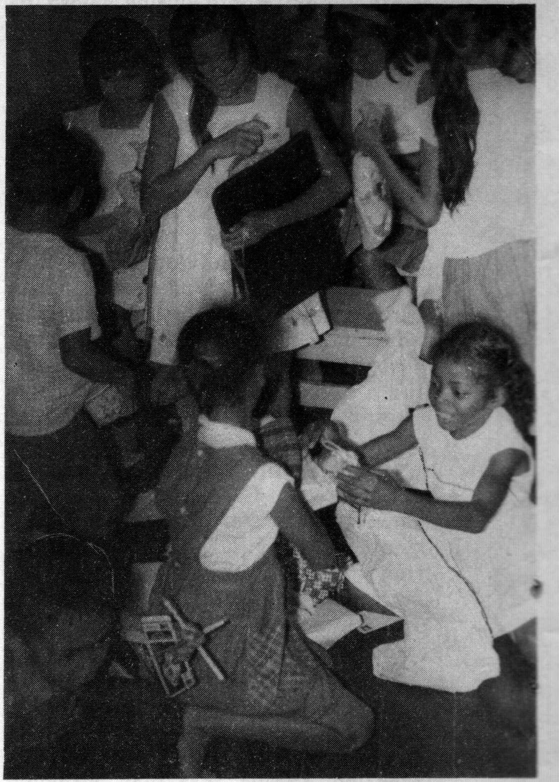
■ Eating endless biscuits and watching the world go by from the window of her home in Paramaribo, Oma (Grandma) Nassy has become a kind of living landmark on the street named after her late doctor husband. And it's not surprising: she has been around long enough to make many friends in many generations — 102 years, to be precise.

She is the oldest registered person in the town (and probably in the country) yet one of the youngest at heart. "Everybody complains about today's youth," she says, "but I think they're fine. I remember when everybody had to walk everywhere. Now they have motor-bikes and scooters, and more opportunity to have fun. And good luck to them." As if to return the tribute, the young people wave to her, chat to her and generally make a favourite of her as they go about their fun.

Born of Negro parents in the Nickerie district, Oma (real name Margaretha) Nassy has never been out of the country but takes a lively interest in the world, reading avidly — "without the help of spectacles," she boasts — and wondering at the miracles of progress. Her own wonders of the world: tape-recorders and airplanes ("I remember when it used to take a month to get to Holland"). Her only regret: that she can't dance any more. She stopped that at the age of 80.

OMA'S LONG-LIFE SECRET
'Never be naughty'





Looked after by her 73-year-old daughter Josephina, who was educated in music at the college nextdoor to Holland Herald's Amsterdam office, Oma Nassy says she owes her longevity to being "never naughty, never rude and always obedient." And she crunches on another biscuit as if to add: "And always young."

Major Courage

■ "I'll tell you, I didn't want to go guerilla fighting again in the jungle," says Sjoerd Lapré, retired major in the Royal Netherlands Army and holder of the Dutch Medal of Honour. Yet now, more than 20 years after his heroism in Indonesia, the 48-year-old major is still fighting in the jungle helping to win Suriname's battle for development in rough terrain.

Broad and tough as teak, Lapré quit the Army and joined Suriname's Department of Hydrology to build airstrips and job roads to open up the jungle. His first job was to hack an airstrip at Avanavero in the west of the country, vital to the future hydro-electric scheme and aluminium production around Kabalebo.

He recalls: "People said it could not be done and that I was a crazy man. Maybe, but ten months after I started, the first aircraft flew in". Then followed road construction and other projects through equally bad country full of wild animals, snakes and treacherous swamps. Then something happened which got the major really mad.

"Some of the men of the Hydrology

Happy family - of 90

■ When it comes to tearing open colourful parcels on Christmas morning, they are like anybody's children anywhere: excited, gay and far too noisy. What marks them out from other families is that there are 90 of them. So that, around this time of the year, they *are* anybody's — the happy receivers of gifts from anybody who cares to donate to the collection point thousands of miles away, at Zeist in Holland.

For the rest of the year the 50 boys and 40 girls, mostly Javanese, are the particular family of Johann Berkhuizen, 38, and his wife Nieke, who (although they have three boys of their own) run a special school for them at Lelienđaal, Suriname.

The boys and girls, aged from four to 16, are segregated into two modern buildings — first stone laid by Queen Juliana in 1955 — where they live and learn. Learn the regular school subjects, plus traditional Javanese children's dances. "This is important," says Berkhuizen, "because we don't want them to forget their own culture — we want to stimulate their interest in it."

The school was started in 1918 by the Evangelist Brotherhood after Spanish influenza left many Javanese children without parents. And, although the reasons for the children being there today are often different — some may have only one parent, some may have been abandoned, some may simply be from very poor homes — their need remains the same: affection.

The Berkhuizens live at the school, far from cinemas, shops and running water, because they have enough of that to keep a family of 90 satisfied. "And," explains Johann, "in Holland I would be one of hundreds of teachers doing the same thing. Here I feel a sense of idealism"

Department were in a jungle camp measuring the flow of the Corantijn River when an amphibian plane landed. Observing the decency of the wild, the men went out in their boat, brought the three passengers to camp and offered them hospitality."

Then a second aircraft landed, this time carrying seven armed policemen from neighbouring Guyana, ordered the Suriname men to hand over their hunting guns and leave the camp. This was the Hollywood-type scene that was to

TWILIGHT WAR OF NERVES
Round one to Lapré's men

spark off a — new the border dispute between the two countries that has grumbled along for years.

First thing the Suriname Government did was to haul back their guerilla expert from his water works and put him in charge of the Defence Force in the Disputed Territory. "I went in in January this year with some forces. It's a great pity, because no-one wins and we will never start any trouble," he says philosophically.

But round one in this eerie war of nerves in a twilight-green world at the back of beyond went to the major and his men. "We captured a Guyana patrol one time. There was no shooting, there never has been. We just sent them back to their own area. But we fed them first. After all, we all hope the situation will be settled around the conference table."

Ironically, the whole mistake was caused centuries ago by an admiral who should have stayed at sea and not gone sailing up Suriname's innumerable rivers. Explains Lapré: "He sailed so far up the Corantijn, then instead of keeping on, turned off on to the Coeroeni, but declared it was the Corantijn. This was never ratified but later we discovered the real Corantijn which Guyana claims to be their New River."

Perhaps the most sensible solution to the admiral's dilemma comes from the major himself — "We must get on with the development. It is necessary for us and, what is more, it could help Guyana too."

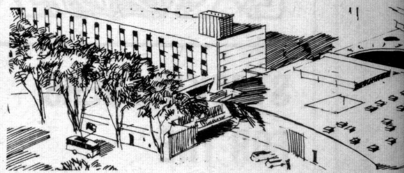
Headline-maker

■ He makes headlines. But, like all former newspapermen, Edgar Wijngaarde also thinks in them. A fair crop of his conversation would run something like: *"A good hotel was a must"*; *"The potential is not only in minerals but in people"*; *"I like all people"* and *"You could call me Mr. Suriname."*

That you could, for Edgar Wijngaarde at 56 is one of the most ebullient yet hard-headed figures in the developing Suriname commercial world. His activities range from social and charity work to the more demanding life of insurance and investment. And it is all directed to one point — the betterment of his country and his countrymen.

In his early years Wijngaarde started work in the family newspaper *Suriname* (see Press section) but quit when he disagreed with his editor, who also happened to be his father.

After some years at the Lago oil refinery in Aruba, he returned to Paramaribo to start his own importing business. Turning point came in 1951



WIJNGAARDE'S PRESTIGE HOTEL
Not just a money-maker

when he met the president of the huge Netherlands 1845 insurance company at a cocktail party. "I decided then that there was something in insurance and I started my own firm. Even today this Nationale insurance company remains my favourite 'baby' of all my other activities. It's not just because it is the biggest in the country, but because I started it," he says.

Likely to replace that company in its "father's" affections is his National Investment Company from which Wijngaarde has recently resigned as chairman to go back as manager where he can more actively impress Suriname people on the need for investment.

One example of his talking headlines coming into reality is the modern Hotel Casino Torarica in Paramaribo. "I worked with some friends to convince others of the need for a good hotel. It was not just to make money," he claims, "It was a must. When it was opened in 1962 by Princesses Margriet and Irene, it was done against all the economic rules. But, with good management and personnel, we managed to make a profit in the second year."

Now there are plans for an extension to the Torarica of 48 more rooms, three suites and a convention hall with a total cost of almost $200,000. Upon this, and other factors, Wijngaarde places his faith in the future of Suriname. "I believe the economy of this country will grow. The potential *(second headline)* is here, not only in minerals but in people. Last year I spoke to members of the United Nations in New York and told them that the whole of the U.N. is our market."

Bulging correspondence files in his office prove Wijngaarde's *third headline*. "I do like all people. You can get hurt sometimes, but when I do then I remember those other people who have not hurt me. It is part of our duty to the country to create goodwill for Suriname and in that respect you could call me Mr. Suriname *(fourth headline)*."

True to form, the man who is chairman of so many businesses or committees, believes in the spreading of wealth locally and abroad. At home his companies are all open — "Anyone can

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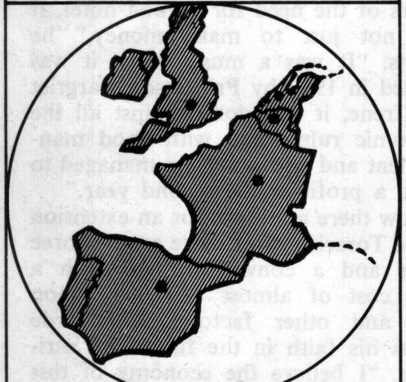

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People

come and look at my files" — and young people should be given room at the top. Abroad Wijngaarde — inspired charities bought a Spitfire during the Battle of Britain in the last war and are helping less-fortunate people in many parts of the world. These activities played a considerable part in his being made a Knight in the Order of Orange Nassau.

No conversation with Edgar Wijngaarde is complete, as his many visitors know, without reference to his family of whom he is intensely proud. "I have no children. But my wife has seven," he quips as he watches his guests expressions. He may like all people, but those seven are his real grown-up "babies".

Booming bankers

■ When Victor de Miranda uses words like expansion, optimism, development and prosperity, you need look no further for an assessment of the mood of Suriname. He is not a man who talks in superlatives. He talks in facts which he is in a unique position to substantiate. For his are the fingers on the nation's purse strings and his the authority to throw open the books.

Like all Suriname's big banks, the **Centrale Bank,** of which he is manager, is based in Paramaribo. It was founded 11 years ago when the principle of having a commercial bank that could also issue the national bank notes was considered to "go against the interests of the country". Not that it ever did. It was just the principle.

Expansion: Now that de Miranda, 54, sees to the minting and printing of coins and banknotes, he has reason to be pleased about the doubling of output in 10 years. And, citing an article in the bank's ordinance — which states that the aggregate amount of banknotes, balances in current accounts and other claims at sight on the bank shall be covered for at least 50 per cent by gold and foreign exchange — he is also justifiably pleased about the fact that "I can pay in gold or in dollars at present at the rate of 102 per cent but often it goes as high as 108 per cent."

In 1967, gold and dollar assets of the country totalled $30m.

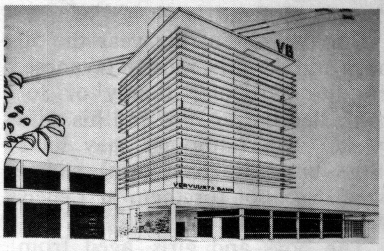
Optimism: With an export growth-rate that has doubled in two years to more than $100m., thanks mainly to bauxite, alumina and aluminium, the coutry has a pretty safe base from which to speculate about the further potentials in its land — such as oil.

And de Miranda doesn't even fear a change in the happy-go-lucky people's attitudes with such prosperity-prospects. "If they didn't change with the bauxite, it's improbable that they will with the oil — if it ever gets bigger than three or four barrels a day."

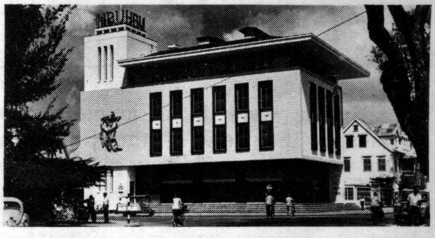
Further cheer is provided with the

DE MIRANDA, CENTRALE BANK: OPTIMISM

SURINAME BANK — SATISFACTORY



VERVUURTS BANK — HUMAN IDEAS



H.B.U. — EXTENDING

present Five Year Plan — a continuation of the $100m.-Dutch-aid Ten Year Plan — which ended last year.

Development: That continuation programme, backed with $60m, will help development of agriculture, fisheries, and cattle-breeding but will concentrate on traffic schemes, road building, mining and forestry; and de Miranda, formerly head of the Government's auditing service and later Minister of Public Works, sees it all as inspiring "confidence" in foreign investors.

Prosperity: Indicative of the rising tide of prosperity in the country is the doubling of the trade balance surplus in the last two years and the remarkable rise in the level of personal savings. "These have increased," says de Miranda, "from about $2½m. in 1957 to over $20m. last year."

And, with a satisfying thud, he closes his books on the chapter of a country's financial story that looks like heading for a happy ending.

Meanwhile, over at the impressive modern building of the **Suriname Bank,** which lost that right to issue banknotes but didn't lose any of its velocity, 58-year-old manager Erwin de Vries is also rather pleased about the rise in personal savings. In cautious, banker's language, he calls it "very satisfactory — particularly over the last five years."

Having worked his way up through the ranks with day-and-night dedication

in 42 years with the bank, de Vries can recall less fortunate times... "during the war, for example, when all links with Europe were broken and we had to stand on our own feet with a very small staff of 40."

Now the bank is booming, with long queues of people cramming the building every pay day, and all of them efficiently dealt with by a staff of 175.

"A bank like ours," says de Vries, "is something of a barometer to the state of the country."

If that is so, Suriname seems to have little to worry about.

Probably the fastest-rising bank in the country is **Vervuurts Bank,** managed by 48-year-old Henny Drielsma who employs human and imaginative ideas that you don't expect of a banker — and that compare favourably with the Suriname Bank's ventures into popular appeal (like its sponsoring of the last episode of "The Fugitive").

The youngest commercial bank, it started in 1936 and throbs with a Drielsma-injected vitality that is pushing it out (to Paramaribo's Zanderij Airport, for example, where it offers exclusive exchange services) and up (into a new $450,000 headquarters building). His eye-catching ideas include the unusual decoration of live flamingoes at the new building. "We wanted something elegant, and typical of Suriname, to identify the bank, he says, "but I had to import the flamingoes from Florida — because, although Suriname is one of the few countries with a flamingo colony, it is very carefully protected."

Amusing though Drielsma may be, his serious regard for his profession comes out in his jokes. "Don't," he warns, "make us out to be some kind of bird sanctuary — we are much concerned about being a good bank. Though I believe a bank should attract people."

Drielsma, who studied 10 years in Rotterdam and three in New York, is particularly proud of the fact that the bank now has the most extensive banking facilities in Paramaribo — with its original small-but-fully-expanded office, the new headquarters, and another branch opening next to the town's port. "Development," he says, "is going rather fast, especially in the last 10 years."

And he doesn't mean just for the country.

Also pushing outwards is the **Hollandsche Bank Unie** which is adding a large new extension to its present towncentre building. "After these 10 years," says 41-year-old manager Arie Middelkoop, "we've simply grown out of it."

Middelkoop, from Bilthoven, Holland ("that just got too small too") is riding the crest of the optimism wave with every other finance-conscious businessman in the country but is also conscious of the fact that there *could* be snags.

"Suriname," he says, "has always been a potentially good thing — nobody knows the extent of its mineral wealth — but it is possible that, going too fast, we could be short of labour eventually with more big operations like the bauxite one. It's a small country and a reasonable injection of money, like that from Holland, works out in a big way. Such a big way, in fact, that it's possible we could go it alone in the not too distant future."

He is also aware of the active competition from the other banks and not only faces it squarely but also appreciates it. "In principle we are free to charge what interest rates we like on whatever we finance, from factories to cars, but the competition keeps all the rates down — which can be very beneficial to investors."

That other world

■ When Johannes Cornelis van Brussel sits on the verandah of his bungalow in suburban Paramaribo his gentle, ageing eyes are not looking at the houses across the street. Van Brussel is looking back into another time, another world. A world when colonialism was not a dirty word. The world into which he was born 73 years ago.

"My parents were born here too, but my grandparents came over from Holland in 1845 with some 380 colonists to start farming in the savannahs." But within six tragic months, almost 180 men, women and children had died in the then harsh tropical land.

Those who survived planted, and lived on, cassava roots, vegetables and plantain in the area around Groningen which is today about two hours drive from Paramaribo. "But in those days," recalls van Brussel, "it took a whole day to bring the produce to the capital and another day to get home again." Because of this the pioneer families moved closer to Paramaribo, but living conditions were not so good and they felt no incentive to strike further into the Interior.

Now enjoying a 10-year-long retirement after selling his own farm, van Brussel recalls those early days when he first helped on his father's spread. "Then, when I was 20 I bought my own farm. At 28 I got married. We had 14 children and 33 grandchildren. When we got no money for our goods, we could not employ labour and things were hard. One time my wife had a baby in a box in the stable. It's a lot better now, of course. In fact, two of my sons have gone back into farming."

But van Brussel does not always dwell in the past. "The biggest difference I have noticed is in the improved development in agricultural production since the last war."

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SHOWBUSINESS

Where comic-strip means just that

■ The half-dressed, statuesque blonde prances and minces her way around the postage-stamp-sized showfloor of the cabaret to suitably bumped and ground music. Yet, strangely, few of the men in the audience look at her. Their eyes and minds are glued on a short, dark little man whose incessant chatter was one of the best tonics Paramaribo had had in a long time.

Diminutive drollster is Pauly Nash, a New Yorker now living in Miami, who performs in the best tradition of American clowns. While he jabs and jibes at sacred cows that range from religion to Hilton hotels, a cigarette perpetually dangles from fingers that are now as brown as any house on New York's East Side.

"Scripts," he bursts out. "I never use them. I just couldn't. I have to work with, and from, my audience." And that he does, reducing those helpless people to shuddering, heaving creatures who cannot get enough breath to gulp the drinks.

Much of Nash's humour is visual, some a little blue, but all entertaining. His own strip-show, in which he teases the earlier disrobing by his assistant, is hilariously directed towards the females in the audience. "Why should the girls be denied the sight of the most beautiful male body in the world?"

He follows this with a German U-boat sketch, improbably using his leggy assistant as a periscope, which is never the same two nights running. After an hour-long, exhausting show, does Nash seek sleep or perhaps a relaxing time at the roulette table in Paramaribo's Palace Hotel?

"Not me. There's a club down the road where they have some real strippers. I usually end up there until four in the morning with people from the hotel who watched my show. I don't

MOST BEAUTIFUL MALE?
But no beauty sleep for Pauly

think I slept more than two hours the whole two weeks I have been in Paramaribo."

But sleepless nights are over for Pauly Nash for at least a year. He has a contract for that time at a Miami nightspot and — "my wife lives in Miami."

But Suriname folk are hoping that

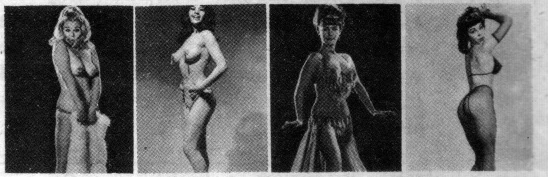
Singing barman

■ The record sleeve says: "Lord Cammy came to the Torarica Hotel, Paramaribo, Suriname, to work as an assistant bartender . . ."

As an assistant bartender, he proved to be a pretty good calypso singer. Suriname's only calypso singer, in fact.

The record sleeve goes on: "His acclaim has been instantaneous and this, his first record, has been made

TALKING ABOUT STRIPPING



THE PALACE PARADE: Wholesome fun

You can take the family to see this, says Emil

■ If there were to be an election to select Suriname's Mr. Entertainment of this or any other year, heading the poll would be a stocky, ebullient 71-year-old known throughout the country as Emil. Full name is Emil de la Fuente who not only owns four of the capital's movie theatres but also the popular Palace Hotel which usually features some of the best night-club acts along the Caribbean and South American circuit.

"I try to bring the best shows here, whether I lose money or not. I just want to give people good entertainment. Nothing vulgar you understand

in response to many people's requests for a unique memento of his natural talents and for a musical reminder of colourful Suriname."

Many requests. Natural talent. Unique. It's all true, yet Lord Cammy — otherwise known as George Gambier — can, with that extended-play record, a first or second place ("I can't remember which") in a Caribbean song festival, and 10 years' semi-professional singing experience behind him, still be found on the other side of the bar.

He leaves it only occasionally to sing tropical, topical songs (he has one about the Border Dispute) of his own composition in an easy lollop-along style that thrills his small but appreciative audiences and is long overdue for discovery.

But 30-year-old Lord Cammy's sincere-but-lazy projection would not be so soundly believable if it didn't match a similar off-stage character. "Of course I'd like to be discovered," he says, "but nobody ever asks me." And that, as he pushes over your next beer, seems to be that.

he will return. "I might at that," says Nash. "After all, I have to go somewhere for a vacation, so I might as well get paid to go to South America."

— anyone could bring their wife or their mother to my shows," he claims. And most husbands do bring their wives, if only to placate them for the inevitable visit to the adjacent casino.

Despite his present love of the footlights, Emil has not always been in showbiz.

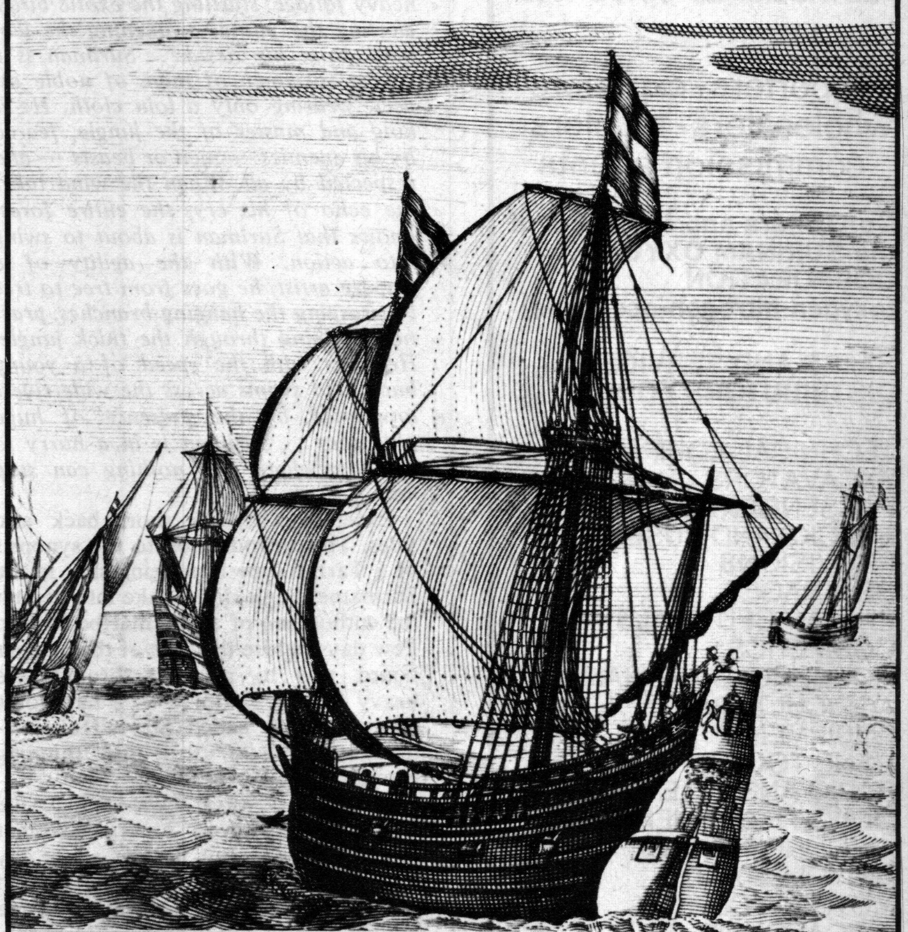
"My father had a small cinema in Paramaribo," he says. "But he was slowly being put out of business by the film distribution monopoly system in the British West Indies. To help, I bought some films in the U.S. and sent them to him."

As a result of this family action, the young de la Fuente got into contact with RKO pictures for whom he later became a salesman — "but only on the condition that I could sell Paramount pictures as well." Needless to say, he got both and worked on that basis for seven years.

Then the energetic Emil went into the exhibition and fair business with which he is still connected.

Emil now considers himself, and rightly, the nation's host. He has his own motto: "I had a lot of trouble at first, but I have made it on my own."

SMART MERCHANTMEN...



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OFF-BEAT

How a jungle king lost his crown

■ *The fathomless Amazon jungle. Suriman's cry resounds through the heavy foliage, startling the exotic birds, alerting the puma, awakening the leopard from his siesta ... Suriman is a robust specimen of man, of noble aspect, wearing only a loin cloth. He is king and master of the jungle, feared by his enemies — men or beasts — and respected by all. When the wind takes the echo of his cry, the entire forest knows that Suriman is about to swing into action. With the agility of a trapeze artist, he goes from tree to tree by grasping the hanging branches, practically flying through the thick jungle. He runs with the speed of a young buck, and swims across the wide rivers unworried by the presence of huge alligators ... Suriman is in a hurry to get somewhere and nothing can stop him ...*

Except perhaps a short back and sides. This introduction to the synopsis of a Tarzan-type film being shot in the Suriname jungle didn't take into acount the enthusiasm of a Paramaribo barber. Few days before the clap of the clapper board was to resound through the heavy foliage, Suriman — a handsome man-mountain called Steve Hukes — thought he could use a little thinning round the back of his own.

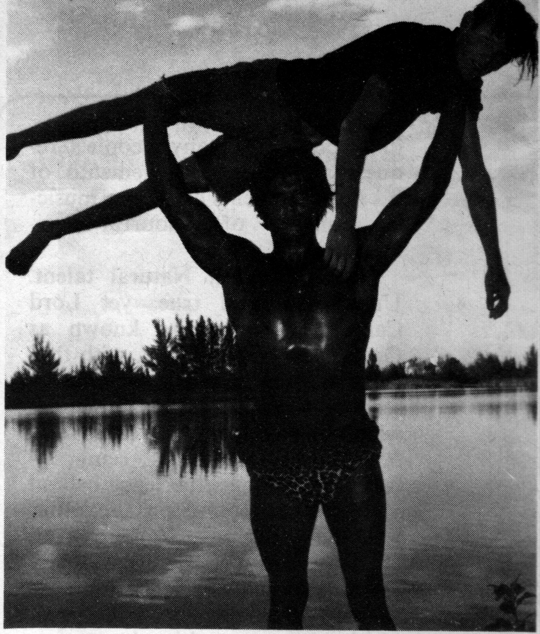
"Gimme a *very light* trim," the Yugoslavian with an American accent told the barber. But it's not every day you get the chance to groom a kind of Tarzan when you're working outside Hollywood, so the barber could hardly be blamed for slicing over-zealously through the undergrowth. There is a point, however, where the hair-style tastes of an average barber and the average jungle man make a very neat parting. That point is somewhere about the middle of the back of the neck.

"I didn't see how much he was taking off the back until he was about half-way through," said Suriman. "Then I just about went crazy — there I was, looking like a little boy on one side and a prize hunka man on the other."

"Steve," observed 56-year-old Italian producer Rene Martinez coolly, "almost broke everything in the barber's shop."

A few snips in the wrong place had apparently disrupted the expensive, three-company (PEA, Italy; Pan-Latina, Spain; Coqui Productions, Miami) production. For Suriman, a determined 25-year-old, was adamant: "I ain't goin' in fronta any cameras like THIS."

The jungle man had spoken. And no amount of coaxing from 20-picture director Romero Marchent, 47, or producer Martinez, or Amazon Queen Diana Sipik (Suriman's "Jane") could change his mind. Only thing to hide the



NO TOUPÉE FOR A "TARZAN"
Nature took its course

embarrassment of it all was a thinking cap. Everybody in the film party put one on. And out came three possible solutions: 1, Try to stick the hair back on somehow; 2, Get a fitting for a wig; 3, Reorganise the film so that scenes without the jungle man could be shot first.

Stick-up jobs and put-on wigs were voted out, so the rejig of the film began, while Steve waited around for nature to do its stuff.

Director Marchent, who wrote the English-dubbed film — entitled *"The Suriman From Suriname"* — with all the traditional ingredients of jungle adventure (fights with pumas; fast-talking parrots; man-eating alligators; princesses in distress) — would be well advised to watch how he yells "Cut!" It might be wise to add: "But not too much off the back." Otherwise big Steve might not swing for his supper. Suramen are so sensitive ...

Tony's terror

■ His face looks as if the Amerindians or Bush Negroes carved it out of a tree trunk. And, when they see it, they treat it with the same respect they would a work of their art.

For 66-year-old Tony van Ommeren is almost as well-known a character-about-the-interior as he is a character-about-Paramaribo. From the town he operates a very different type of tourism into the Suriname wilds, and it's no cushion-comfy, sit-back-and-relax affair.

Though he does have a few cushions on the four open motorised riverboats he operates — two out at the wild east of Albina and two between Paramaribo and the area of Stoelmans Island going south — you will be lucky to acquire one and even luckier if it does you any good.

Stoelmans Island is a developing tourist spot, with a modern guesthouse,

at the confluence of the Marowijne, Lawa and Tapanahoni rivers, all of which Tony's boatmen negotiate with a rare and uncanny skill, shooting dangerous rapids and squeezing miraculously between this rock lift, that rock right and the perilously shallow riverbed.

Perched upon the bow, a Negro navigator plunges a pole regularly into the water, while at the stern the outboard operator judges the depth from it and adjusts speed and direction accordingly. Occasionally, however, the fast-flowing river gets the better of them.

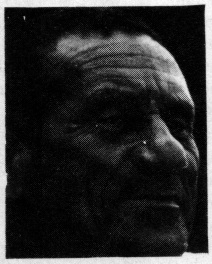
Sit with Tony in a speeding boat and ask: "Is it dangerous?" and he's sure to reply: "Man-eating piranhas and alligators everywhere." At which point the boat scratches agonisingly along the riverbed-rock, wobbles to port and starboard threatening to capsize, then stops motionless in the whirling water.

Jabbering argument. Then out steps a boatman into the "piranhas infested" water to huff and puff and push you off. Breathe again.

None of this terrifying ritual worries Tony. And he doesn't even worry if his customers do. "It's all part of the game," he says. "If people want adventure on holiday, this is where they come. People with guts who're tired of easy-osy holidays in Europe, who want something a bit less civilised — such as shooting dangerous rapids like the Porigoede, which means 'the spoiler of wealth'."

In fact, Tony, with a list of jobs behind him as long as the Marowijne river itself — merchant seaman (jumped ship in U.S.), hospital worker, technology student (thrown out of U.S. as undesirable alien), gold digger, trainee accountant, telegraph mast builder, concrete mixer, coffee plantation overseer, welder, "speculator", rubber cutter, storekeeper, sawmill worker — is at last settling down to a permanent and promisingly successful career, judging by the increase in adventure-seeking tourists.

"Ten years ago," he says, "I took 25 people a year on these trips; six



FOR PEOPLE WITH GUTS
Tours with Tony

years ago 400; and now I get over 600 a year. Most are American, but next year I expect a group of 84 from the German automobile club and a group of 20 from the Pullman Club Holland."

And the multi-lingual Tony, ready willing and able to handle anybody from anywhere, grins with a twinkle that seems to say: "More lovely grub for the piranhas."

The answer is blowing in the wind

■ There had to be an interestingly obtuse reason for a Suriname Boy Scout band to import three sets of Scots bagpipes from Holland. But for the life of him, group leader George Small, 48, couldn't think of one.

Any Scottish connection? "Well, no." he said.

"Maybe because we wanted some variety in the band," he added. "We used to have only drums and bugles but now we're adding pipes and flutes."

"I suppose we saw it as a sort of eye-catcher that might encourage other young people to get interested in the Scouts," piped up local businessman Ab Judell after whom the group was named as a tribute to his Scout commissionership.

The meeting to celebrate the imports was becoming more and more perplexed about the reason for them. "Perhaps it was just because we thought they would make a nice noise," ventured Mr. Small.

"Perhaps," agreed another official.

And the band played on. Complete with doedelzaks, as they call them.

Ticklish problem

■ It put police and fire chief Richenel Spalburg in a tricky spot — considering that the Suriname police force, like most others, had a thing (if not a written regulation) against such adornments — when many of his 1,300 young shavers started sprouting handsome beards.

For, after more than 30 beardless years in the force during which he had risen steadily through the ranks to the summit, he himself had started it all with a decision to indulge in the privilege of office and grow an elegant, pointed one, flecked with distinguished grey. "I just felt like it," he confesses.

Now the ticklish problem of the 58-year-old master policeman, eight years in the chief's chair, is how to restrain the epidemic while not actually reaching for a razor himself.

Fortunately for Suriname, Spalburg is a man who blends a sense of humour with a sense of proportion. So that, when there are more urgent problems of crime control at hand, he knows where to put his serious application. And he knows where to put his men.

There are 400 policemen in Paramaribo, the rest in the districts; and Spalburg, like a maestro conducting an orchestra, co-ordinates them and mo-

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Dior	Miss Dior - Diorissimo	8.50	12.00
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Givenchy	Le De - L'Interdit	7.35	11.00
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bilises them, on 110 radio cars, a police launch, and 90 motor-cycles, through radio contact and with the help of a chess-type wallboard which tells him instantly when-who-is-where. Yet, with so many facilities, he is not quite satisfied when detection work goes out of town: "Soon we'll have to add an airplane or a helicopter," he says.

The implication being that crime fighting is getting tougher. "It will get worse before it gets better," says Spalburg. But he doesn't doubt that it will get better. "There is more and more juvenile delinquency in the country, mainly because there is simply not enough employment to go round and only one small reform school to accommodate a few of the worst offenders. But we expect soon to get new

SLIM PICKINGS FROM SPALBURG
But beards all round

industries to eliminate unemployment — and so reduce the delinquency rate."

Apart from the rarer big crimes, Spalburg and his men are constantly kept busy with bicycle and scooter thefts (these being as popular in Suriname as in Holland) and with break-ins (because with the tropical heat, most people sleep with their windows open).

Even the police chief himself hasn't escaped. He woke up one morning recently to find his own house had been broken into. And the sense of humour and proportion comes out again when he tells the story. "I don't keep valuable things about the house, so the thief got away with only a tube of toothpaste and a bottle of after-shave."

One hesitates to ask if that could be the reason he gave up shaving.

Frederika the thorough-fed thoroughbred

■ When they think of animal shows, most people think of dogs, cats and the occasional guinea pig. Frederika the anteater swept away all such preconceptions in Paramaribo when she not only entered for the local show but also emerged with first prize.

It was a proud moment for owner Milton C. Flueckiger, 34-year-old manager of the town's Torarica Hotel, who bought the anteater in poor shape for a few dollars from an Indian.

Frederika, who shares a kennel with a two-month-old puppy, was nursed back to silk-coated, prize-winning condition on a diet of rice and milk, then every day four raw eggs, one hamburger, two bananas, two sweet potatoes, a can of carnation milk, three drops of baby vitamins and three drops of cod liver oil served at room temperature.

"Apparently," says Flueckiger, "these are all the ingredients she would get from her normal diet of termites."

Frederika, however, is not complaining about the current standard of service at the Torarica.

Here's mud in your drill

■ Lanky James Healy, Suriname's trader extraordinary, takes a deep breath before he outlines the extent of his business. Because it goes something like this: importing, wholesaling, retailing, shipping, Customs broking, oil field servicing, investments in a margarine factory, a detergent factory, a carton box factory, an insurance company...

So that it doesn't really come as a surprise when he adds: "And we sell mud."

Not just any old mud, of course, but byrites — known as drilling mud — which is a mineral ground into a powder and mixed with water. Because of its high density and floating ability, it is used in oil drilling, constantly circulating inside the drills so that anything in the region of an oil field (preferably oil) is pushed out on top of it.

"Naturally," says Healy, co-manager of the United Suriname Trading Company in Paramaribo, "you often lose a lot of it, but if you strike oil you're not going to be too sad about loosing some mud."

Healy, New York-born ex-manager of the Alcoa Steamship company in Suriname and Trinidad, who started the trading company from an old store with the help of his partner Rudolph Tjin A Djie nine years ago, got into the mud business after the Suriname Government, drilling for water in 1966, hit oil by mistake in the coastal area called Calcutta. The company soon started dealing in mud from the United States for drilling firms contracted by oil companies. (Shell and the French NV Elf Petroleum Suriname are the interested ones).

It costs the drillers $3,000 to $4,000 for enough mud for the average Suriname drill.

Healy, a 44-year-old father of seven, admits that although oil rig servicing — not only the mud, but food supply and transport of drilling pipes too — is only one aspect of his business, he is passionately interested in it for Surinam's sake.

"We know there is oil here," he says, "and the only question is: is it commercial — is it enough? If we hit a gusher, then we'll have an oil economy here and the whole country will change overnight. Suriname will go right into orbit. But only time will tell..."

FREDERIKA: FIRST
Guinea-pigs nowhere

Living history

■ Very much alive, if not necessarily kicking, in the Army garrison on the outskirts of Paramaribo is a part of Dutch military history — Colonel Dirck Vooren of Her Majesty's Grenadiers.

"I was Chief of Staff here in Suriname between 1961 and 1964. Then I was posted back to Holland where I was promoted from Lieut. Col. to full Colonel. Then, against all the rules, I was sent back to Suriname as commander. I don't think that has happened for more than 100 years, where a C.O.S. has returned to a place as commander," says the tall, distinguished soldier.

During his two spells in Suriname Col. Vooren has not only more than fulfilled his military and social duties, but also made a study of the country and its varied people. "The Army is welcome here. We have made good friends with everybody and nobody resents us."

"Quite often we go into uninhabited jungle, but that is only as a form of recreation for the troops." Bush life does not present any difficulties for Col. Vooren. During the war he was a prisoner of war on the ill-famed Burma Railway — "but we came through with no troubles". Next milestone in the career of this officer and gentleman is his retirement in 1970. Life then will consist of puttering about in the garden of his house in Haarlem and not in the exotic terrain of tropical rain forests.

PRESS

When Ab's around, read ANP for FBI

■ The security arrangements were tight. All the Pressmen had been screened by the FBI; Zanderij Airport, near Paramaribo, was cordoned off and then-President Lyndon Johnson was assured of a peaceful, if hurried, stop in Suriname on his return trip to Washington from a South American tour.

Then, as he walked towards the airport buildings accompanied by Secretary of State Dean Rusk — it started to rain. "That was when the security broke down," recalls Dutch news agency (ANP) man Albert (Ab) Judell. "In the rush for shelter I found myself squeezed between the President and Mr. Rusk. I could easily have shot either of them. The whole system of precautions just fell."

The Zanderij incident is only one of many which latecoming (1956) newsman Judell has in his notebooks. "Although this is a small country, there is always some news."

Classic example came two years ago during the rioting in former British

THE PRINCE AND THE PRESSMAN
'What's a by-line' asked Judell

colony Guyana, when all telecommunications were broken. Judell had, and still has, the only direct agency radio contact with Europe from South America. "I had a man near the border monitoring a 'ham' radio operator in Georgetown, Guyana. I then transmitted the messages about burning and looted buildings via the ANP office in The Hague to London, where it was big news."

Recalling the event, Judell says: "Reuters gave me a by-line for that. But at the time I did not even know what a by-line was." In case anyone should be fooled, there is nothing naive about Judell.

From his hectic, town-centre office in Paramaribo, a crisp news and financial bulletin, in Dutch and English, is published six times a day and eagerly snapped up by visitors and local businessmen alike. With the efforts of his "Man Friday" Jules Nelson, a secretary and teletype operators, Judell is determined to get more Suriname news on the international wire services as well as to get closer co-operation between his adopted country and the Netherlands Antilles.

But Ab Judell wears several hats. All of them fit comfortably (except the one for his wife and five children who sometimes wonder who the "stranger" is that appears in the house from time to time) and all have made him one of the best-known and respected figures in Suriname life.

As the representative of the Netherlands Trade Commission in the Caribbean, Judell is critical of the apparent ignorance of Dutch exporters about the Suriname market. "It is very easy for a Dutch businessman to get in touch with us through the Economic Affairs Information Department or the Council for Trade Promotion, but they seem to think it is easier to try and find the name of a firm in the Suriname telephone book.

"Our market here is not as small as people in Holland think. In the first half of last year, for instance, there were imports into Suriname of about $60m." He also gave warning to the "folks back home" that Denmark, Germany and Japan were becoming increasingly aware of the trading potential of this South American country that speaks with a Dutch accent.

Judell, now 43, went to Suriname in 1946, after a special intercession by the staff of Prince Bernhard of The Netherlands. During those first few years he roughed it, both physically and financially. Then he branched out into so many fields that he made the spreading chestnut tree look like a sapling.

From tax advice to insurance to entertainment (he brought stars like Miriam Makeba and Holland's Milly Scott to Suriname), Judell still devoted time to good-doing organisations like the Round Table and Boy Scouts.

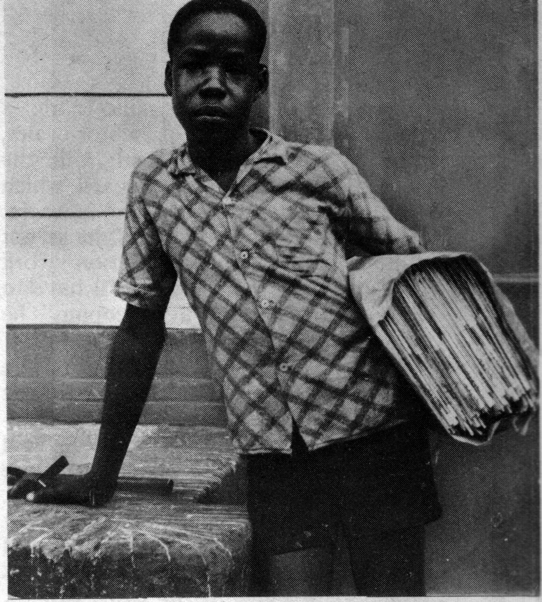
Perhaps he best sums up his life and times in his own phrase: "I am so busy. When I go to Holland on leave with my family I have so many people to see I sometimes forget to visit my own mother in The Hague. She has to remind me to go and see her."

Thriving threesome

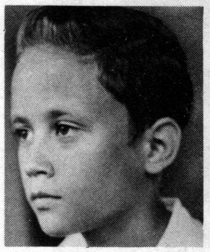
■ In a world conditioned to mass newspaper circulation and group mergers, newsmen visiting Suriname are constantly amazed to find three daily papers flourishing there, although the largest circulation doesn't exceed 9,000.

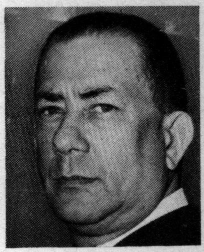
And advertising men are even more amazed to find that the daddy of them all, *De West,* which can command that 9,000 figure (though only on Thursdays when everybody wants the local lottery results), can not only survive but also thrive on an advertising rate of about $1.50 per column square.

Editor-owner is 55-year-old David Findlay (his father was Scots) who



PARAMARIBO PAPER-ROUND
Picture by George for editor father David





finds that rate quite reasonable and, surprisingly, also finds the time, even when contributing masses of copy to each issue, to build up an intriguing private museum of Suriname Indian and Bush Negro artefacts.

Happily he further finds that his newspapers and such personal interests, including politics and his family, often combine to everybody's advantage. Stories about lost Indian tribes are eagerly consumed by his readers; his leader articles have a ring of real authority from his membership of the legislative council; and his 13-year-old son Georgie has recently taken his Holland-bound brother Edward's place as the paper's cub-reporter/cameraman.

Apart from the professional news services of the editorial staff of five, correspondents in Holland, Israel and Britain, South American and Dutch papers and the world-ranging ANP, contributions are also gratefully accepted from friends, such as the director of education, who can write with authority on their special subjects.

This reader-participation cosiness is no doubt one of the popularity secrets of the 59-year-old, 10-page *De West,* originally called *Onze* (Our) *West,* "which was later considered to be too colonial" — and this popularity incidentally poses a massive distribution problem in the often near-impassable terrain.

Says Findlay, 25 years in the editor's chair: "We have 50 newspaper boys who deliver the paper in town by bicycle direct from the press, and those copies for the outlying areas are distributed by bus, boat and plane and

picked up by our agents at the other end."

Long-time Paramaribo journalist is Percy Wijngaarde, 53, who unlike his businessman brother Edgar (see People), stuck to his pen from an early age and is now the editor-owner of *Suriname,* the country's oldest daily.

"Suriname started as a weekly in 1840. After it became a daily, my father, Jan, owned it and ran it and I worked with him until he died in 1956 and I took over," says Wijngaarde. He now has 30 people working on the paper and in his commercial print shop. But only two of this staff are journalists who, with Wijngaarde himself, fill four pages five days a week with the help of the Dutch news agency ANP and stringers in the more remote parts of the country.

"I like to think my paper is the more serious of the three. We are what is called in Holland an opinion paper. Although we have the smallest (3,000) circulation of the three, we all manage to make a profit." This is all the more remarkable when Wijngaarden explains that for every one person who buys the paper, 10 read it.

"I have the only woman reporter in Suriname. She was born in Holland and trained there. For me she looks after the children's and teenagers' page, which is now getting very popular."

Also popular is the country's second biggest paper, *De Waare Tijd.* Under editor Leo Morpurgo the paper has grown both in stature and popularity to its present 5,000-plus circulation. "We can be regarded as an independent paper and people like it that way."

The image builder

■ It's a commission any good PR man would relish: building up a whole new image for a country with a whole new set of circumstances. And, relishing it, Waldemar Nods also defines it — succinctly: "The idea is to convince Dutch *entrepreneurs* that there are many exciting possibilities in Suriname."

The exercise of convincing, centred at the Amsterdam public relations division of Basford International of which 38-year-old Nods is manager, takes the form of Press releases, ready-captioned photos, lectures to industrial clubs, pending publication of a lavish booklet entitled "Doing Business in Suriname" plus distribution to 5,000 Dutch businesses and businessmen of a monthly facts-and-figures paper called *Suriname.*

Nods, Hague-born but Suriname-orientated, describes his clients — The Foundation for Promotion of New Investments in Suriname — as "pretty important" and is equally aware of the importance — and the challenge — of eradicating the country's slow-economy image of 15 years ago to get home the meaning of today's healthy economy.

That meaning: "Many possibilities for agriculture, in rice and citrus fruits for example, especially for big companies who worked previously in other tropical countries such as Indonesia. Infinite opportunities for smaller service industries, and great potential for tourism." Great potential too for image builders . . .

Doing all right

■ It's evidence of somebody's success when a high-quality print shop moves into a new $40,000 plant, but Richard Waasdorp, 54-year-old boss of Suriname's fast-expanding book and magazine sellers and printers, Varekamp & Co., isn't going to claim the credit for it.

"It's because the country's developing fast and there are more people earning and spending more money," he says. "Any firm that's doing all right can benefit from conditions like that."

But there is no doubt that Varekamp deserves a few of the back-slaps. As printers of the much-respected, well-produced magazine Bauxco Nieuws, and "other little magazines", they have built up a reputation that other Suriname printers find hard to challenge.

Only regret of Leiden-born Waasdorp about the recent break-out into the gleaming new building, complete with equally new machinery, a few doors along from the Paramaribo bookshop headquarters, is the omission of the more-modern offset process. "Unfortunately, with high-quality work in such a small country, our print orders usually don't go above 20,000 which isn't enough to justify offset, much as we'd like to have it . . ."

In the meantime there is nothing for it but to go on being the best (letterpress) printers in the country.

Top of the charts

■ Martin Hopman is managing director of a firm that is, on the face of it, working itself off the map. "It means that we have taught people in developing countries how to do the job and now we can pull out," he says without fear of unemployment as long as there are such developing countries.

Hopman's firm — Djambatan — started in Indonesia in 1948 publishing school atlases and educational books but moved to Holland when the local people became proficient in producing their own. Now, from the head office in The Hague, Djambatan produces books and maps not only for schools in foreign countries, but also for commercial enterprises.

"Our latest production [overleaf], an eight-colour map of Suriname, took three months to prepare. Normally it would take three years. We worked night and day with our editors and a Suriname Government geographer, Henry Dahlberg. It has the legend in English, Dutch and Spanish and has a dual educational and commercial purpose."

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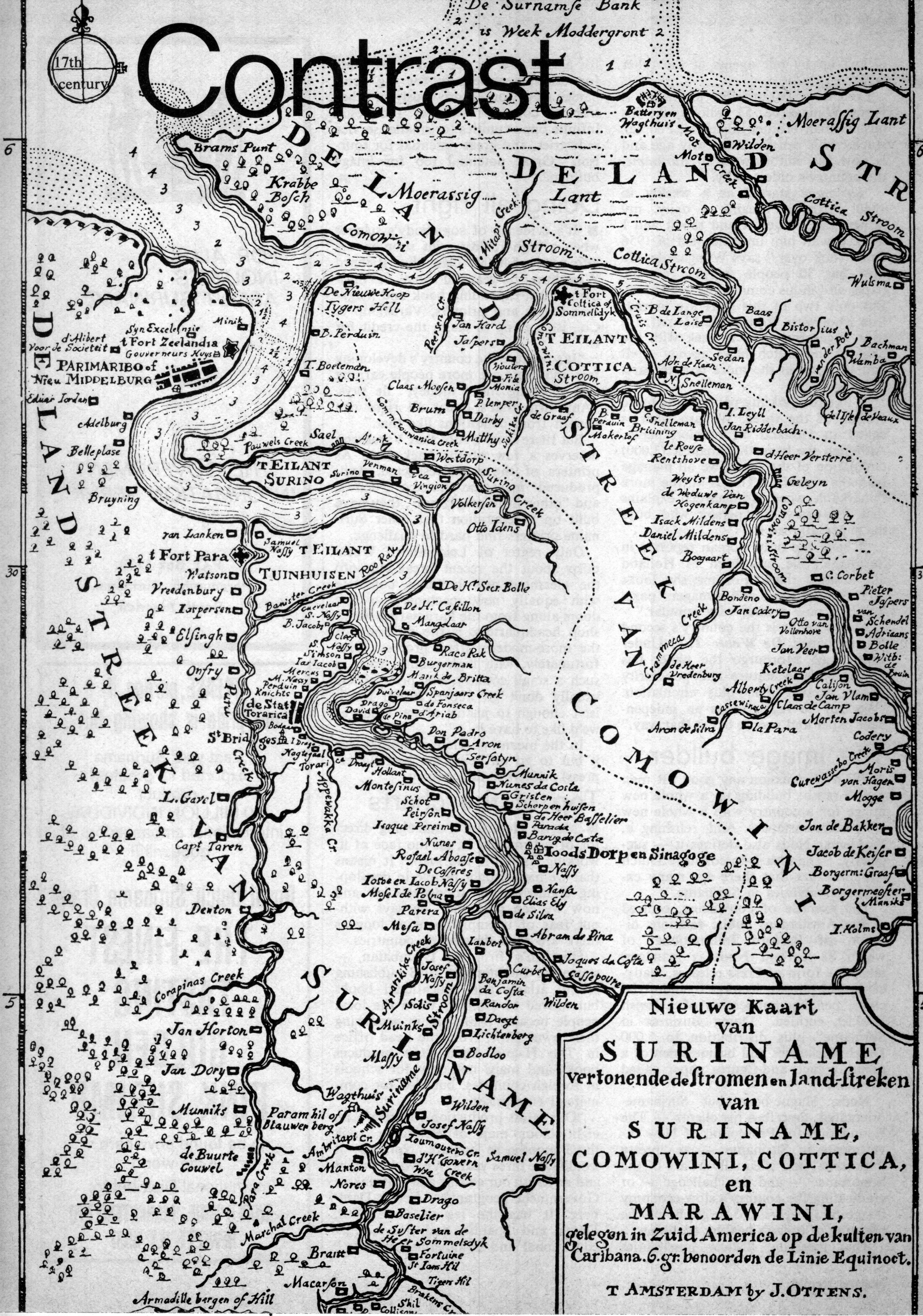
Contrast

17th century



Detail from new wall map of Suriname by Djambatan, Riouwstraat, The Hague, Holland. Order from there or, in Suriname and Dutch Antilles, from C. Kersten & Co., P.O.. Box 1808, Paramaribo.

The only original inhabitants are the Amerindians.

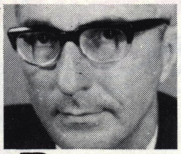
During the slave trade 300,000 were imported fro

In the 17th century the Europeans colonised Suriname.

With the Treaty of Breda in 1667 the English and Dutch made peace and it was decided that the Dutch exchange New Amsterdam (now New York) for Suriname.

The slaves ran away a since when they have traditions. The descen still live in tribes in t

ESSAY by Aksel Quintus Bosz



AKSEL QUINTUS BOSZ, 59, is not only a district commissioner of Suriname, member of the Legislative Council and specialist in tropical agriculture, but also an acknowledged expert on the history of Suriname and its people. Born in the former Dutch East Indies, he has lived in Paramaribo for 20 years, and is married with four children. As a lawyer specialising in land tenure, he makes regular trips to other South American countries to advise the United Nations and other international agencies on land use, reform and settlement. Here he outlines for Holland Herald the remarkable story of how Suriname became a little world of its own: telling who came when — and why.

■ It may be only a small country on the north coast of South America, but Suriname can boast a composition of community that is unique in the world — and an example to it: for there all the races live side by side in harmony while still preserving their own cultures and religions. It is a population pattern shaped in the course of a little over 300 turbulent years.

WHERE THEY CAME FROM AND WHY

Shortly after the discovery of America in 1492 Spanish explorers started an extensive investigation of the vast new continent almost totally claimed by the King of Spain. But, after a brief visit to the coast between the Amazon and the Orinoco — which they found inhabited by fierce Indian tribes — they passed on. It was not until they made another landing much later, in 1593, that the Spaniards took any action over the area known as Guiana. They formally claimed it for their sovereign, though by that time they were no longer undisputed owners of the Americas.

Dutch and English navigators, including Sir Walter Raleigh, were finding their way to South America, eager to discover the source of Spanish gold. Attracted by tales such as that of the fabulous king El Dorado who bathed in gold and lived on the shores of a large lake called Parima, they too sailed along the unhospitable coast and rivers of Guiana. But apparently they did not find it sensible to take the risk of too- thorough investigation.

No actual settlement was attempted in Guiana for many years although Britain and The Netherlands had made several conquests elsewhere in the New World by taking advantage of the weak position of the Spanish fleet during the war with Spain.

The first settlement along the Suri-

THE MANY FACES OF SURINAME

0,000 Negroes
d from Africa.

After slavery was abolished in 1863 many Creoles did not want to continue working on the plantations and Chinese, Hindus and Javanese fieldworkers were brought in.

vay and founded villages deep in the interior,
have maintained their ancient African
scendants of these slaves, the so-called Bush Negroes,
in the interior.

The c
which
joined

nam river in the middle of Guiana seems to have taken place in 1630 by a Captain Marshall, an Englishman. His colonisation of about 60 people failed, however, and there were probably more trials: but the first man to succeed was Francis Lord Willoughby of Parham, a wealthy English royalist exiled by Cromwell. With other refugees living in Barbados he founded the colony of Suriname in 1651, and it soon proved to be a success.

Willoughby had not come to look for imaginary gold but for good fertile soil to plant sugar cane. His policy of welcoming all sorts of fugitives from unsuccessful other colonies — notably Jews driven from Brazil by the Portuguese — brought capital and know-how to the new settlement and also laid the first foundation of the complex society of the country.

The Jews were officially recognised and granted unusual privileges. A large tract of land was given to them in 1665 to build their places of worship and schools and to bury their dead. And so the first synagogue in the Western hemisphere was erected in Suriname.

The prosperous colony of Willoughby was otherwise organised in the same way as other agricultural European settlements in tropical America at that time — it was a plantation economy based on slave labour, for which Negro slaves were imported from Africa. The Indian aborigines were regarded as free people although they withdrew to the backlands for safety's sake.

In 1667, during a war with Britain, the Dutch captured the alluring rich colony which could claim by that time a population of about 4,000 people, slaves included. In the peace negotiations shortly afterwards the Dutch were so keen to stay in possession of their conquest that they actually traded it for New-Netherland in North America, which was taken in the same war by England and renamed New York.

The Dutch had maintained in Suriname the liberties acquired by the white settlers under Willoughby and had even extended the liberal rules. In the middle of the 18th century, at the peak of the prosperity of the colony, the valuable crops from the rich soil made it unnecessary for the plantation owners to drink water. But, while they enjoyed fine imported wines and other luxuries, their wretched slaves had to toil under extremely bad conditions. Small wonder that, to escape such ill-treatment, they fled into the jungle in sizeable numbers and banded together to protect their freedom... and to wreak revenge on the plantation owners.

Eventually they become such a threat to the plantation society that the colony had to be helped by regular troops from Holland to try to suppress them. But even then it proved impossible to beat the so-called Morrons or Bush-Negroes in their jungle retreats. The government of the colony was forced at last to end the costly war by negotiating for peace. In formal peace treaties started in 1760, the different tribes into which the Bush-Negroes had organised themselves were recognised as tribes of free people in their own right

tani

A small group of Lebanese merchants and Dutch farmers also settled in Suriname.

ountry now boasts a multi-racial society, living in a harmony
is symbolised by the Suriname flag, consisting of stars of different colours,
by an elliptical band on a white field.

FROM A MURAL BY NIC. LONING AT PARAMARIBO'S TORARICA HOTEL. MORE OF LONING OVERLEAF

and under the rule of their own chosen chiefs. Thus a new section was added to the already-mixed community.

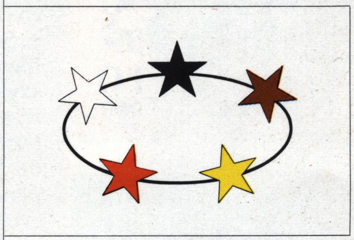
The cost of defence against enemies from without and within had exhausted in the meantime the financial reserves. Added to that was a fall in prices for tropical products in Europe which ended in a crisis on the Amsterdam stock exchange in 1773. A 150-year recession started that wrecked the plantation economy. The once-rich planters were gradually forced to abandon their estates. There were 800 plantations in operation in the year 1800, but there remained only about 10 by the middle of the 20th century.

It went from bad to worse. During the Napoleonic era the colony was twice captured and occupied by Britain, but it was returned to The Netherlands in 1816. Because of the sharp decline in its economy, Suriname was no longer a profitable colony and had to rely on aid to off-set the deficit in its budget. All sorts of measures were taken to revive the ailing agriculture,

And the races of the faces...

■The many-coloured stars of the Suriname flag represent the many races of its people, and the band that binds the stars is a symbol of their togetherness.

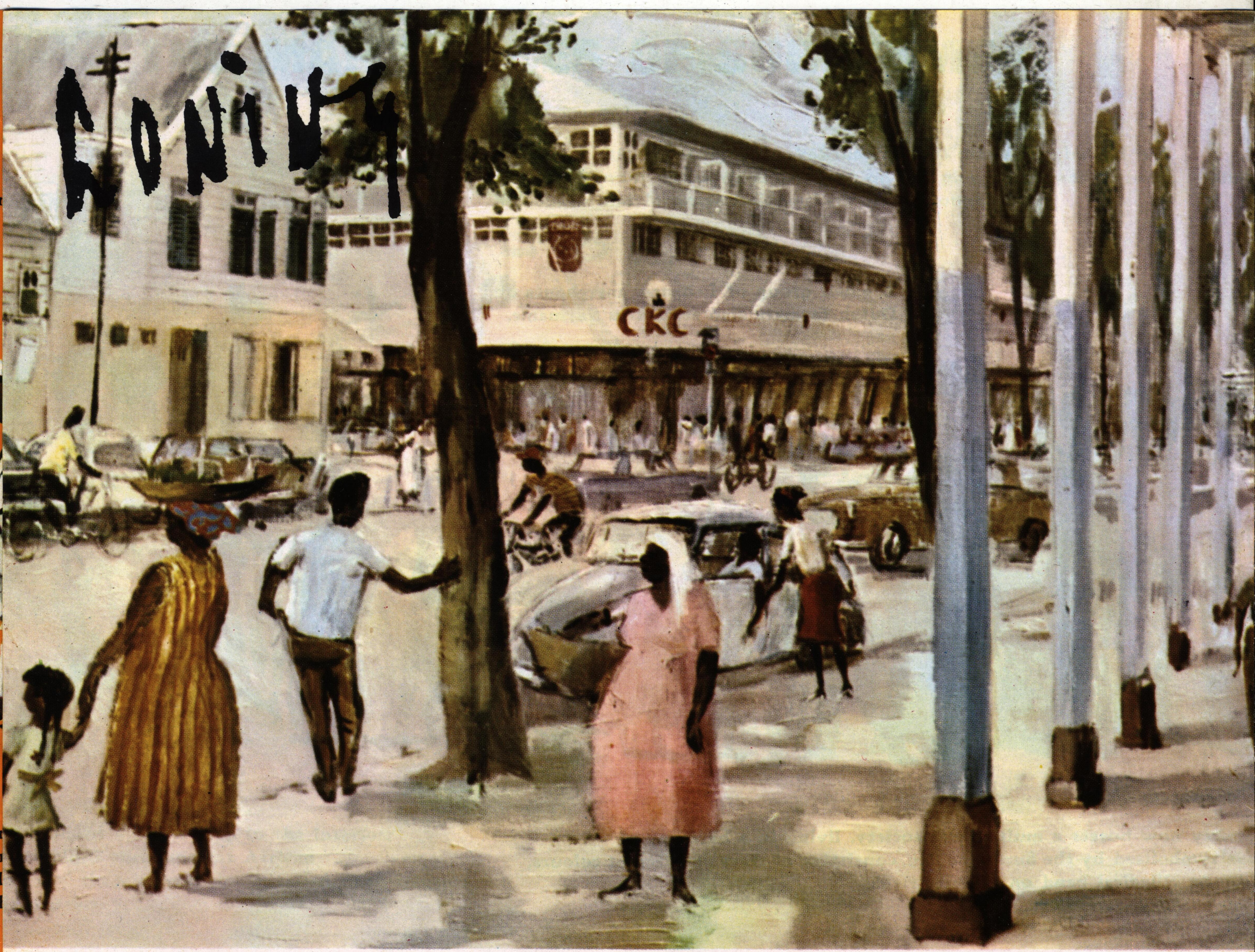
The tourism officials call it a world in miniature. And they are not far off: consider this rough-percentage estimate of the country's various groups...



Ethnic groups	
Mixed Negro (Creole)	35 %
Indian (Hindustanis)	35 %
Indonesian (Javanese)	15 %
Bush Negro	9 %
Amerindian	2 %
Chinese	2 %
Jews and Lebanese	1 %
Europeans	1 %
Religions	
Christian	45 %
Hindu	27 %
Moslem	20 %
Animism and non-classified	8 %

but to no avail. A sizeable colonisation of Dutch small-farmers ended in failure, although this new addition of people left another mark on the society. When slavery was at last abolished in Suriname in 1863 the still-existing plantations were threatened with total extinction if no provisions were made for their labour supply. For obvious

Continued on Page 46



HOW NIC LONING (BOTTOM RIGHT) PAINTED A CHALLENGE: KERSTEN'S PROGRESS ON CANVAS — AND ON POSTAGE STAMPS

■ "A department store is not really so poetic," admits artist Nic Loning (Holland Herald "Many-faces" pull-out and back-cover) "but if you're asked to paint one, you don't say No to a challenge like that."

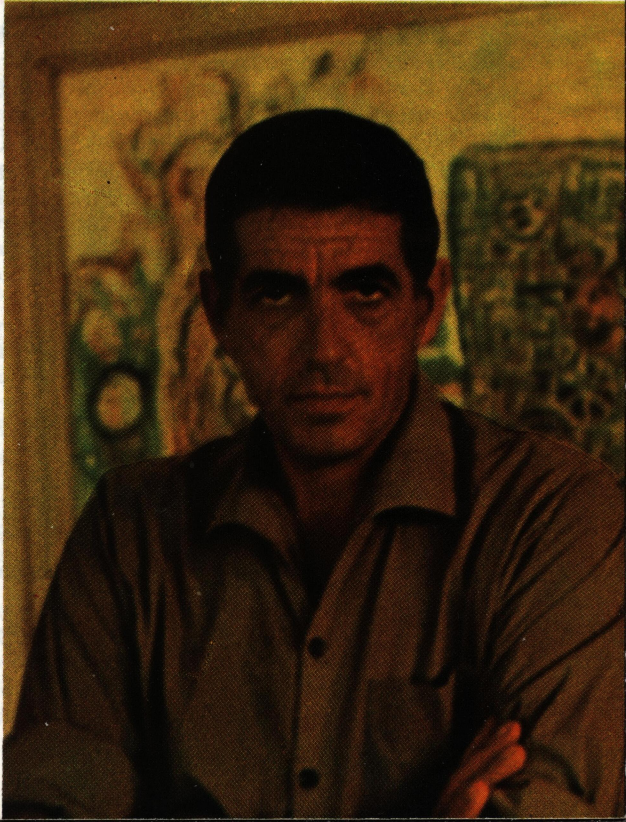
Some art-for-art's-sake critics may have shivered a little when he didn't say No to the staff of Kersten's who wanted a painting of their building (left) to present to managing director de Kraker: But Loning injected a little perspective and a lot more poetry than even Kersten's (see Business section) could move from a shelf on a busy day.

But then, of course, there are stores and stores. Some governments would never dream of commissioning postage stamp designs depicting the 200-year progress of one, and some artists would never dream of accepting the commission. The Suriname Government did. And Nic Loning did.

The question was obvious: How much did the subject-matter influence his decision to accept? Says Loning: "If you see it in terms of art for commercialism's sake, consider that the store is not in the profit for profit's sake game — it is church-based — and, even if it were, business can be re-

Continued on Page 41

'I have to be quite versatile'



LIE AND WORK — WITH FAMILY

ART

JONGMANS AND NATURE — WITH FAMILY

'I don't worry about people who don't understand'

■ Hans Lie never struggled in a tiny attic and worried about whether he ought to eat his only lump of dry bread or use it for his next still-life. It wasn't that he was unaware of the popular image of the young artist, it was just that he didn't see the necessity for it. So he rubbed himself right out of that picture, risked his artistic neck with nothing but faith in his own talent, and climbed the Suriname art tree like a sure-footed cat in a hurry.

Result is that Lie, Oriental-looking with a drooping moustache and a far-from-drooping career, is today in a highly enviable position for an artist of 27 tender years. He is the only full-time painter in the country — has been for two years, after one as a teacher — and is doing what he likes to do at a leisurely pace and in leisurely surroundings (a modern residential home in Paramaribo) which suggest that he is also commanding enviable fees.

Certainly he and his wife and their three children are nowhere near the lump-of-dry-bread-line and nor will they be so long as people are prepared to pay Lie $500 per painting.

But such social success does not inhibit the artist from commenting on less savoury social subjects such as hunger and poverty. They are, in fact, his favourite themes, and perhaps the potency of his message is heightened by his awareness of the anomaly. "You don't have to be the subject of an experience to understand it and sympathise," he says.

And, though Lie side-stepped the classic struggle, it has not been all plain sailing. It has been a case of steady application — training at the school of industrial art in Amsterdam, then the Antwerp painting school, then a year's teaching in Suriname — and often of energetic exercises in personal public relations.

Now his work appears everywhere you turn in Suriname, in hotels, banks, hospitals, and even all over the walls of Iwan's Chinese Restaurant in Paramaribo. "I like to think I helped Hans along as much as anyone," says Iwan, "when he was not so well-known." Also, Lie often exhibits at the town's Society Club. Other exhibitions have included two in Belgium and one in Curaçao, and he has long-term plans for more in Caracas, Curaçao again, Miami and New York.

But perhaps the most significant achievement of the young man who frankly enjoys his work as much as the rewards it brings was his winning in 1966 of the Currie Prize for culture and sciences as a tribute to his "remarkable cultural presentations".

Remarkable is indeed the word for his work. Though he specialises is painting and copper sculpture, he claims "the material doesn't matter — I can express myself in any" — and few dare to argue with his powerful interpretations. Those who do find themselves on the receiving end of a scathing rejection: "I don't worry about the people who say they don't understand my work. Let them talk. I see it as bigger and much more international than they can think — and I don't work to their desire."

Refreshingly uncomplicated for one who has developed quickly from impressionist ("that didn't satisfy me") to expressionist, Lie says: "I live and work very easily without problems."

An enviable position indeed.

'I'm a landscape painter drawn irresistibly to abstraction'

■ Like blue molasses, the river weaves, winds and melts into rock; jungle leaves hang like great green flowers; crashing sea is petrified in white-crested beauty. Ab Jongmans' painting is nature unashamedly but not insensitively magnified and glorified.

"I suppose you could call the style impressionistic," says the 34-year-old artist, "but I don't really know what it is. All I know is that I am basically and essentially a landscape painter who finds himself irresistibly drawn to abstraction.

"The funny thing is, I feel myself traditional. But even being traditional these days allows for more freedom than, say, the 17th century Dutch painters had. They *had* to paint that little house on the horizon: we are free to suggest it."

Suggestion is the foundation of a Jongmans painting. But, that made, he stands back, in the old-house studio across the road from his comfortable Paramaribo home, picks up a dripping dark-paint brush, and proceeds to confirm the idea with forceful form, so that it becomes not so much a suggestion, more a categorical statement.

His passionate appreciation of nature, almost a very personal religion, has long been evident in his work. "I've been doing landscapes and landscapes alone for six years now," says the father of three from Alkmaar, Holland, who teaches four days a week at a Paramaribo teachers' college. "In nature I see something of erosion and change — water changes because the rocks change, the rocks change because the water changes — which is perhaps symbolic to me of the temporary nature of all things in life."

He says it with such a tone of regret that one imagines he might find satisfaction in suspending animation.

One definite source of satisfaction for him is the "infinite variety and attractiveness" of the land he has chosen to live in. He came there with his Surinamese wife Agnes after they met while studying at the Gerrit Rietveld Academy in Amsterdam.

Now it looks as if Jongmans, already commanding $300 a picture, has painted a rather fine future for himself and his family on the horizon of their Suriname life-scape.

From Page 39

cognised as respectable human endeavour as much as art. Two hundred years is a long time in this country. Artistically, it was a challenge."

Loning, 42 years old, successfully walks a philosophical tightrope between challenge and interest — or lack of it. "In portraits, for example, "I just work for myself, only accepting the work if I like the subject." His job as a secondary school teacher helps him and his 33-year-old wife Froukje to live comfortably in a residential part of Paramaribo — and allows him the luxury of reserving the right to pick his subjects. Within five years he hopes to be painting full time and choosing his style too.

"For myself, I paint sort of expressionist: for others I have to be quite versatile. This is not a country for specialists yet — though I do believe an artist should dare to express himself in any style.

"But it is very flattering to be asked to do such things as stamps. Especially considering the competition in the country these days. When I came here from Amsterdam in 1950, after graduating from the school of painting and graphic arts, there were very few top-class artists here. Now we have people like de Medina, Getrouw, Chin A Foeng, Woei, Lie, Jongmans — all marvellous in their different ways."

Needless to say, such names have reason to recognise and respect the name Loning. As he does them.

RECORDS

Crisp, clean Brahms

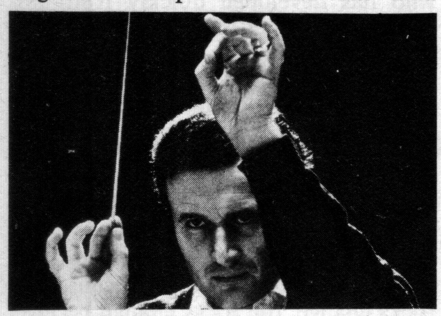
■ **Brahms: Serenade no. 2 in A, op. 16; Academic Festival Overture. Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra/Claudio Abbado.** *Deutsche Grammophon SLPM 139 371 stero.*

A delicious recording of this rarely heard but delightful serenade. Abbado brings out all its many felicities with tenderness and understanding. The Berlin Philharmonic's outstanding woodwind playing is crisply and cleanly recorded. A broad, rich treatment of Brahms's most popular overture, carefree in a different way, makes an ideal stocking filler.

Promising start

■ **Berlioz: "Romeo and Juliet". London Symphony Orchestra and Chorus, John Alldis Choir/Colin Davis.** *Philips 839 716 LY stereo.*

Complete version of Berlioz's dramatic symphony based on Shakespeare's play. Berlioz's best work is in his lesser-known large-scale compositions and this is a



COLIN DAVIS IN ACTION

promising start to a series of these under Davis which Philips have planned for next year's Berlioz centenary. Soloists on this recording are Patricia Kern (alto), Robert Tear (tenor), and John Shirley-Quirk (bass).

The best of Berry

■ **Chuck Berry: "St. Louie to Frisco".** *Mercury 134 082 MCY stereo.*

Raw, vital, gripping rhythm-and-blues originals by the master of the Memphis sound. Berry's music has been at the root of white pop music for more than a decade. He has influenced a host of stars from Elvis Presley to the Beatles, and this record is of Berry at his best. That's something.

Swingle all the way

■ **Swingle Singers: Christmas with the Swingle Singers.** *Philips 844 858 BY stereo.*

This is more than a routine Christmas collection. It is a rare opportunity to hear the Swingles being themselves instead of interpreters of the classics. The arrangements, as always, are basically instrumental in approach and the group really cut loose on the secular numbers — "Jingle Bells", in big-band jazz style, is Swingle all the way. The more traditional carols get a refreshingly modern harmonic treatment. Superb musicianship.

Art

The man with the velvet baton

■ There are few orchestra conductors patient enough to battle through a rehearsal in the face of crippling absentee difficulties simply because the last episode of "The Fugitive" is showing on television. But Eddie Vervuurt, 40, of the Suriname Philharmonic, accepts it with a philosophical flick of his baton, mixing as he does a fair dash of realistic with artistic.

The realistic comes out when he assesses the musicianship of his 50-strong orchestra: "We may not be quite the best musicians in the world, but the fact that we exist as a unit is significant, as we are the only such orchestra in the country.

"But you can't put it on a professional basis — I can't say I want this or that too emphatically: I've got to handle people in sympathy with their moods."

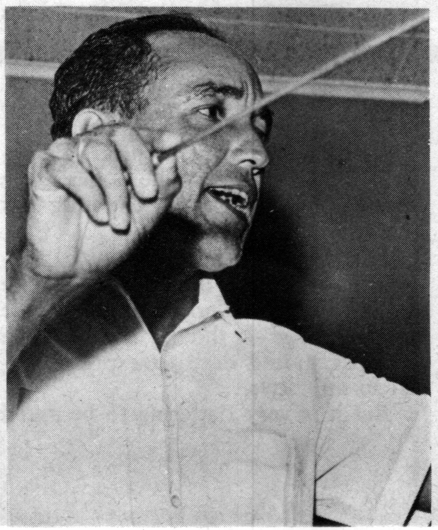
The artistic is nevertheless always evident in Vervuurt's constant, underlying obligation to improve — however much nursing it may require.

And that means being practical too: "When I started with the orchestra 18 months ago, it had been around for 30 years and there wasn't one reed instrument. So I acquired some and brought them along myself."

It isn't only to the now-fully equipped Suriname Philharmonic — with members ranging from housewives to judges — that Vervuurt feels such responsibility: he also feels it towards the country's emerging composers, such as the highly-regarded Eddie Snyders.

So much so that Snyders gets an honoured place on the programme with Brahms when the orchestra plans a concert for, say, the opening of the new Suriname University. "We're hoping to be able to give three or four concerts a year now," says Vervuurt, former manager of Suriname's Radio Apintie, "and the plan is to include

IN SYMPATHY WITH THEIR MOODS
Vervuurt the patient conductor



whenever possible the work of one of the country's own composers."

Vervuurt, who played in a South American mambo band when he studied music in Amsterdam and who confesses to enjoying "all forms of music," is nevertheless honest about his academic bias towards the locally-conceived. "In my opinion," he says, "our composers are turning out very valid material and we intend to stimulate them — and composers-to-be — with the knowledge that their music will always have a definite chance to be heard."

Towards identity

■ One of the hidden Suriname bonuses in having such a mixture of racial groups is the wealth of cultural background which they all have to contribute. But each of them is prepared to submerge this culture and blend it into one "Suriname identity".

"We are trying to break away from our Dutch identity in culture and the arts and build up our own," says Ronny Rens, 35, director of the Cultural Centre Suriname, a growing complex of a library, music and ballet school, a fine arts centre and a free expression art school. Although the foundation was only formed in 1947, it has now built up a reputation as a cultural training institute which also supports and inspires other cultural organisations in the country.

Says ex-journalist Rens: "We now have about 1,300 students with 30 teachers working full and part-time. The most popular class is ballet, which has about 600 pupils".

But this is ballet with a difference. Of the three ballet teachers one is a specialist in authentic African dancing and there is a girl student now learning Oriental ballet in The Netherlands. "Classical ballet is still the basis of our work, but we are slowly changing it to our own new ideas in order to reach that new identity," stresses Rens.

Although the centre is in Paramaribo, some of its activities range outside the capital. A familiar, and welcome, sight in many of the "up-country" schools is the library bus which brings literature to the more remote areas. Also part of the service is a travelling cinema which shows films in village community centres.

"Cultural life in Suriname is growing rapidly. More and more people are coming to study at the centre because we need only charge a few guilders as we are subsidised by the Suriname and Dutch governments. Next we are going to start hobby clubs for adults as well as concentrating on the youth," says Rens. Proof of the success of this cultural "explosion" can be seen any time there is a visit from a foreign artist. Rens says proudly: "When musicians or artists come here, like French or Russian ballet companies, the hall is sold out."

THE NIGHT THE ARCHITECTS' OFFICE BURNED DOWN

What burns down must go up . . . traditional

SAY THE GREAT PROTECTORS

■ If they burn down, architects' offices usually burn down in a different architectural period from that in which they were conceived. Which confronts them, in the rebuilding, with an inescapable obligation to state exactly what their personal philosophy is on trad-versus-mod.

It happened to the traditional, all-wood Paramaribo branch office of the Dutch van Oerle and Schrama firm two years ago. It was gutted within an hour. And within a few months the firm had made its statement: the identical exterior design in wood with solid stone lining the only concession to modernity.

Reason for the endorsement of Paramaribo's interestingly-evolved style (basically European with Texas ranch-type influences added towards the end of the 1800s as contact with the southern US states increased) could well have been the passion of its sympathisers in the firm's ranks. Architects like Thijs Moll, 31-year-old Rotterdammer, and 30-year-old Arthur Tijn A Djie, active member of Suriname's monument preservation society.

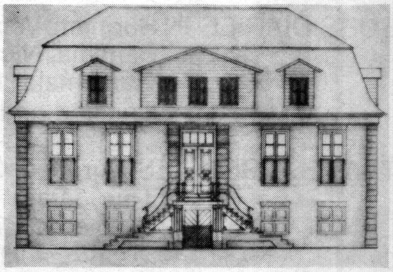
Says Tijn A Djie: "We are concerned about the possibility that, with many different modern building styles, the centre of Paramaribo could lose what we consider a unique character. We believe that the biggest buildings at least must retain this, to keep the city attractive and continuity-conscious."

Moll cites an example: the Court of Justice building, put up in 1793, restored when the roof burned down in 1824, and at present being remodelled again by van Oerle and Schrama. "The trouble was," says the architect, "that the roof built in 1824 was completely out of context with the original Dutch style of the rest of the building and, to correct the misconception, we've had to get the original plan of the roof from the archives in The Hague."

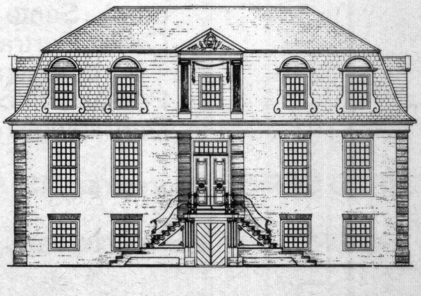
Problem is how to get the message over to the authorities. "I suppose we just have to keep plugging away at a gentle kind of brainwashing," says Tijn A Djie.

Other forward-thinking architects, such as 35-year-old Harold van Ommeren, come across the same problem. "I would prefer to see the scheming better organised and directed towards a definite architectural goal. But politics, so many ethnological backgrounds and often a total lack of style consciousness are pretty big stumbling blocks."

However, there is one secret weapon on the stocks that could well bring about some of that much-wanted

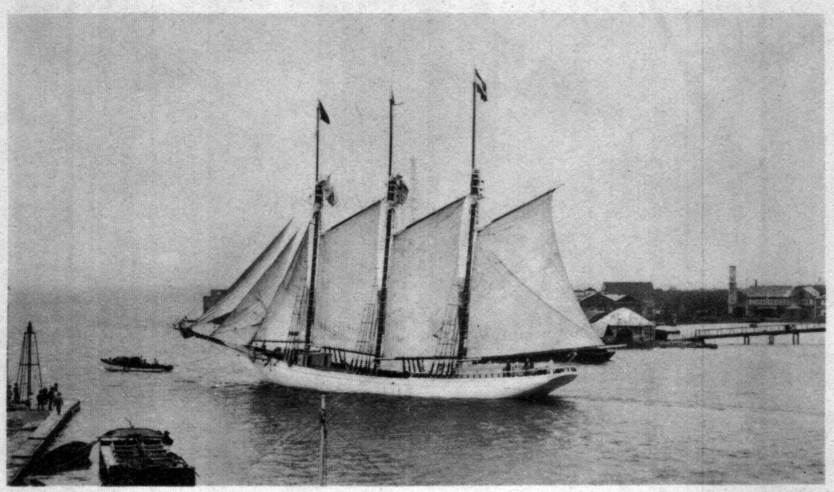


COURT OF JUSTICE AS RESTORED



. . . BUT NOW BACK TO ORIGINAL

50 years ago, we'd have fixed you a trip on the Hollandia



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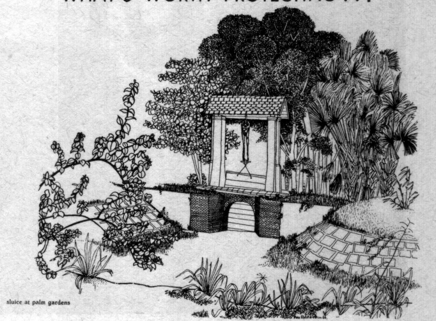
change in thinking. It is a large book, with photographs, sketches and historical notes on buildings considered by the trad-protectors to be worthy of preservation.

Publication date has not yet been settled, but currently involved in the

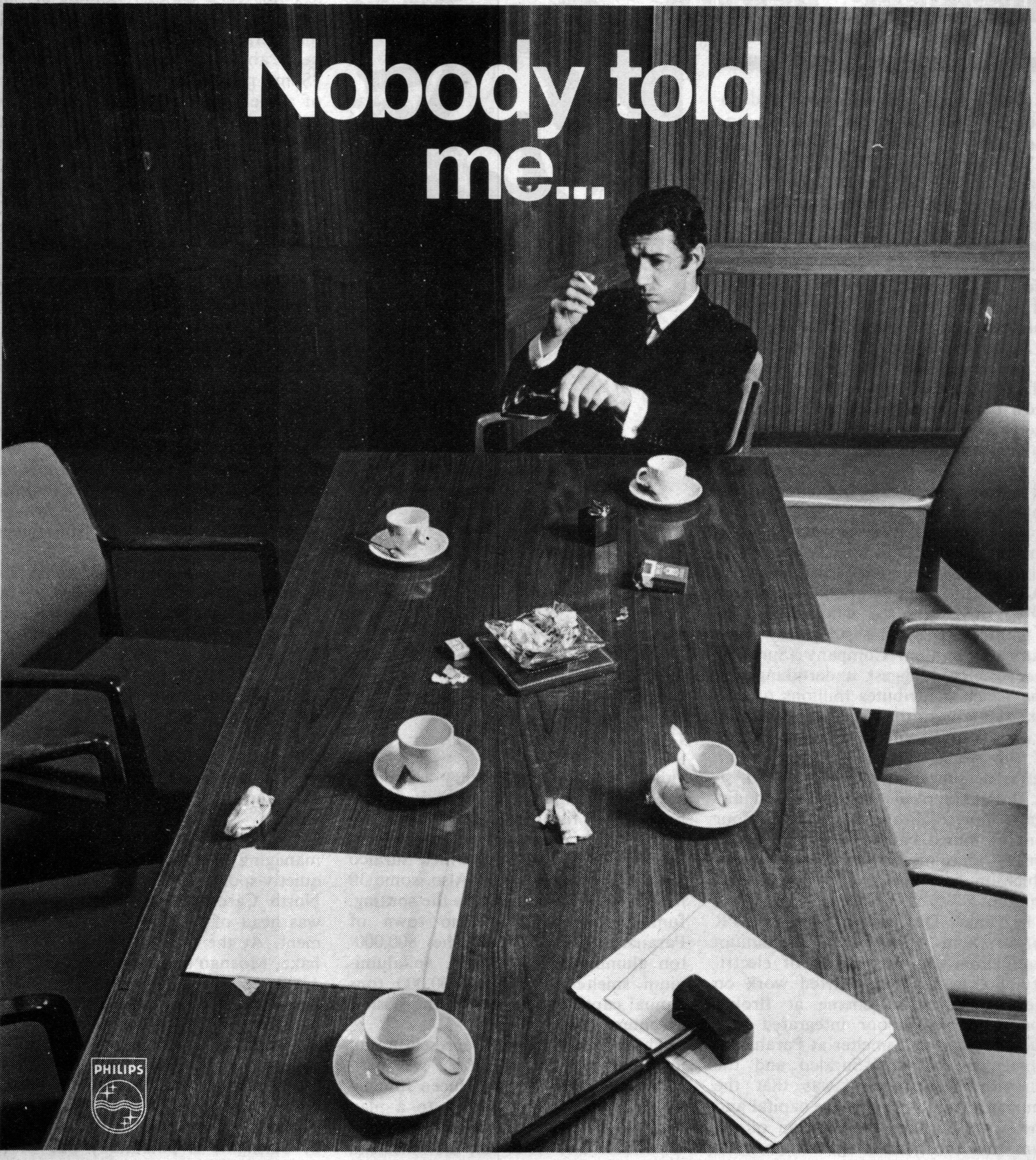
WHAT'S WORTH PROTECTING . . .



. . . BY ENGLISH ARTIST THEA

art work for it is English commercial artist Thea Rubinstein, 37, who is married to an American businessman in Paramaribo and is partner in an advertising agency. "Some of the buildings here are fascinating and very sketchable, often incorporating several different architectural periods and details. The preservation society is anxious that these details shouldn't vanish from the Paramaribo scene — but, unfortunately, sometimes I don't agree with their opinion about what is worth preserving!"

Meanwhile, back at the town planning office, town planner Dr. Herman Adhin comments carefully: "The problem of how to preserve monuments and restore traditional building styles has our close attention. Though a bill has been introduced in Parliament, the present lack of a zoning ordinance makes it difficult to execute thoughts and ideas on preservation and restoration."



The meeting's over. Empty cups, full ash-trays and a mess of paper are all that remain. Decisions have been taken without you. The proposals you were going to make — the ones you took hours to prepare, might have changed the situation completely . . . The pity of it is that with a Philips Wireless Paging System, you could have been found in seconds.

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BUSINESS HERALD

The red gold that keeps Suriname in the black

■ The legends are numerous and colourful. The history is romantic and the potential almost unlimited.

To take the legends first, there was Napoleon III who prized his special shining tableware more than the gold "eating irons" used by others; there was the story that the streets of Paramaribo were paved with it and finally, there was the story that *it* was discovered by an escaped prisoner from the former penal colony in French Guiana.

It is bauxite, the mineral ore which is processed into aluminium and of which Suriname possesses more than most other countries of the world. For the past 50 years American-inspired bauxite mining has left a deep red scar in Suriname's soil, but has also provided a deep black bank account for the country's finances.

First to recognise Suriname's importance in this field was the mammoth Aluminium Company of America (ALCOA) which started mining in 1915. Nowadays the whole operation is controlled by the subsidiary Suriname Aluminium Company (Suralco), the country's biggest undertaking and one which contributes millions of dollars annually to the national exchequer.

As the housewife in almost any part of the world fills up her aluminium kettle or saucepan or as travellers sit in the pressurised tube called an aircraft, few realise that it takes four tons of mined bauxite to produce two tons of alumina (powdered aluminium) which in turn yields one ton of aluminium.

Explains Dutch-born Suralco PR chief, Daan Hillen: "In aluminium production you need a lot of electricity. So, in 1957 we started work on the hydro-electric scheme at Brokopondo to supply our integrated production plant and smelter at Paranam." Agreement between Suralco and the Suriname Government was that the company would provide the capital and know-how for the construction of the dam and the generating station while the Government would contribute the water and the land.

Now the 600-square mile lake provides power for the country as well as the aluminium industry. But it is also becoming a fishing-holiday spot within just over an hour's drive from Paramaribo along a highway which Suralco cleaved out of the bush. Also, some 30 miles out of Paramaribo, is the spitting, fuming man-made volcano town of Paranam which houses the 800,000-ton alumina refining plant, an aluminium smelter of around 60,000 tons annual capacity and one of the busiest harbours in Suriname.

The whole complex, representing an investment of some $150m., was officially opened in 1965 by Queen Juliana, which was a fitting climax to a plan which had been originally conceived by Dutchman Dr. W. J. van Blommestein, after whom the new lake has been named.

Strangely, since flooding began, there has not been enough rainfall in Suriname to fill the lake and, consequently, the Paranam industrial area has not been able to work at full capacity. "Some people say that this is because of a spell put on by the Bush Negroes that we had to re-house in another part of the country," says Hillen. Even now, under the clear water of the dam, can be seen the villages that were inundated.

Another of the legends, of more recent origin, is that the biggest fish seem to like lurking inside the houses below the surface. Says Paranam operations manager "Pete" Mathewson, who is also a keen weekend fisherman: "I have been told that if you drop your bait outside the front door of one of the houses you will catch a real big one."

But in contrast to the tranquility of the lake is the inferno-like scene at Paranam where masked, asbestos-clad workers handle the molten aluminium in temperatures which soar above the already high heat of the sun outside the smelter.

Watching the controlled frenzy that is aluminium production visitors are impressed that local workers can efficiently handle the complicated machinery. Says Hillen: "The Suriname worker is very capable. Up to a few years ago he would work casually but now he has had to adjust to discipline and shift work. We have a training scheme to teach the men the workings of this very complicated plant and it is very rewarding to see how well they do it."

Overlording the Suralco operation is managing director Waldo Porter a tall, quietly-spoken power expert from North Carolina, who for many years was head of ALCOA's Power Department. At the Suralco projects in Afobaka, Moengo and Paranam more than 4,000 people are employed. Says Porter: "I am very happy with things here in Suriname in view of all the money that has been invested. And with the new scheme for bauxite mining in West Suriname our investment will increase by millions of dollars."

The discovery of bauxite in the west of Suriname is potentially one of the most exciting in Suriname's history. "There is estimated to be about 400 million tons there which would last us

MANY FACES *(Continued)*

reasons the freed slaves did not want to work the land anymore and preferred to leave for the city and other population centres. So that other labourers had to be found.

In anticipation of the abolition of slavery, Chinese workers for the plantations were contracted from faraway Java in the Dutch East Indies as early as 1850. Later they were recruited directly from China. In 1858 alone such labourers totalled 500. Since only few of them chose to extend their contracts, and the available number was not enough to meet the demand anyway, other solutions had to be found. After immigration of labourers from Barbados proved unsuccessful, permission was negotiated from Britain to recruit labourers from India. Beginning in 1873 regular batches of Indians, partly Hindu and partly Moslem, arrived in the country. They proved to be good workers. To retain them as permanent immigrants after their contracts expired, the Government offered them several inducements. Although many returned to their home country, most of the Indians settled as independent farmers on land granted to them. The recruitement of Indians met more and more opposition in India itself and was finally stopped by Britain during the First World War. The last ship with about

for 100 years," calculates Hillen.

But the Government has negotiated not only with Suralco, but with other major aluminium companies in the world. Apart from winning bauxite and producing alumina and aluminium, the new hydro-electric projects at Avanavero, Coeroeni, Bastien and Manbari will produce enough power to yield more than 1½ millions tons of aluminimum a year from the six million tons of bauxite which will have to be mined. A Government estimate has put the value of this potential export bonanza at around $400m.

The associate membership of Suriname in the European Common Market plays a great part in the existing export trade. Explains Hillen: "We sell all our aluminium to Europe because we can get under the tariff barriers. This could be a good reason for other companies to start operations in Suriname. Although we are a long way from our market, the tax advantages we get make it worthwhile."

The black flood that keeps the pioneers alert

■ Although the incident happened almost three years ago, men at the Billiton Company Suriname bauxite mine still recall the day of the black flood. On that day in 1965 the swamp ooze that has to be removed in order to get at the precious bauxite turned into a landslide and a monster 800-ton excavator was damaged beyond repair. Fortunately, the crew escaped

"This is one of our big problems," says Billiton's Public Relations man in Paramaribo, Arthur Tjin A Djie. "Sometimes we have to dig as deep as 90 feet below the surface to start mining. But then we have to store all that overburden."

To solve the problem, as the mining machines creep forward, the thousands of tons of grey-black sludge are stored in tiered dump areas behind them. "It seems strange in such a big country," says Tjin A Djie, "but we could be running out of storage space." But whatever the problems encountered, Billiton has had more than 100 years' experience, in Indonesia, Africa and Europe, to overcome them. Although the Dutch company started mining bauxite in Suriname just over 25 years ago, annual production has now reached an impressive two million tons — about half of which is exported as alumina.

The whole Billiton operation is centred around the village of Onverdacht, some 20 miles out of Paramaribo. But only a small percentage of the bauxite is processed there. The rest is either trucked or railed to the Suralco plant and smelter at Paranam for processing, or sent direct to the Billiton port of Smalkalden for shipping to the aluminium smelter at Delfzijl in The Netherlands, jointly owned by Billiton, the Dutch Hoogovens steel company and the Swiss Alusuisse corporation.

As in most Dutch enterprises, both at home and abroad, the success of Billiton's bauxite mining is based on the inevitable polder. Before mining can be started, dykes have to be built, drainage canals dug and the land reclaimed before the great, crawling monsters of modern-day excavation are turned loose.

Says Billiton managing director R. G. Esser (who replaced the present Governor of Suriname, Dr. Ferrier): "We were the pioneers in these big excavating machines and we are going to continue developing new, technical methods in South America." The company will soon have plenty of opportunity to show off its know-how when it joins the other companies which are to develop the new bauxite discoveries in West Suriname.

Like the rest of his employees, Esser is concerned about the overburden and the possibility of another "black flood". But, as a technical man who was previously manager of the Delfzijl plant, he remains calm. "There is always a problem with overburden and, up to now, we have overcome it although there are still a few technical snags left."

Perhaps the Billiton progress report in Suriname is best summed up by Jaap Schelters, who forged his way through the bush in those dark days between 1939 and 1940. "Where the company's mine offices are today, I used to hunt wild pigs."

---

300 contracted labourers from India arrived in 1916. By that time the Indians formed already an important part of the population.

Other possibilities then had to be considered. The island of Java, which was also under Dutch rule, looked like a promising source. And it was. Recruitment of Javanese started in 1890, and many of them decided to stay — thus forming another important segment of the community. The last arrivals from Java were 1,000 free immigrants during 1930 and 1931.

Apart from the organised immigration of Indians and Javanese, various other nationalities — notably the Chinese and Lebanese — have settled in fast-developing Suriname in the last 50 years, and they all add up to a colourful inheritance from a colonial past: a population that is not only multiracial, multi-religious and multi-lingual, but also multi-happy.

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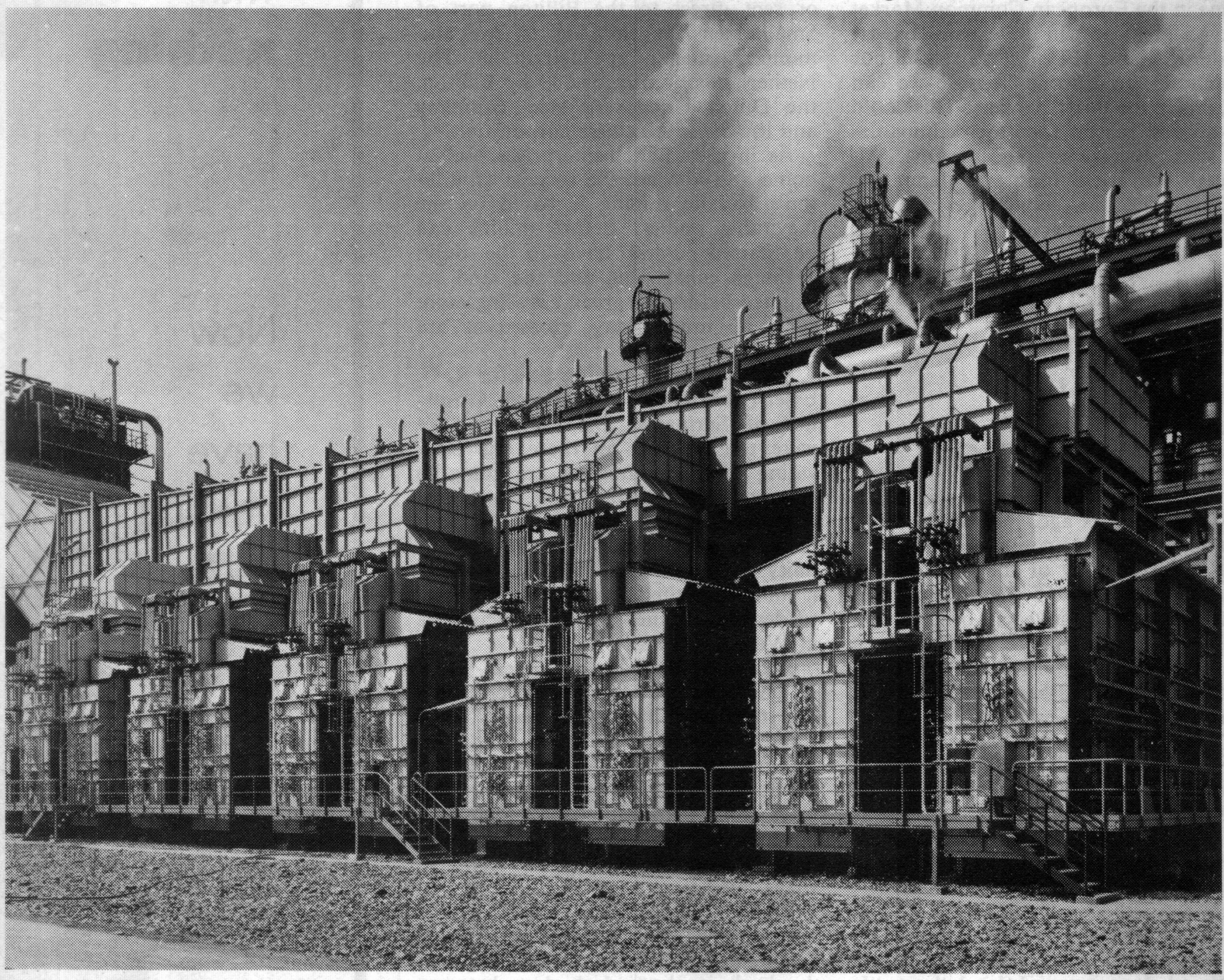

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FROM THE TROPICAL FIELDS OF SURINAME

SCOTCH WHISKY

Soda with your sugar cane?

■ Take one glass of genuine Scotch whisky; then one glass of Suriname-made whisky; add one blindfold Scots Holland Herald staffer to taste and allow to simmer before verdict. Which is easy: the Scots Scotch is the one that goes down like pure silk, the other like not-so-pure silk. Not bad at all.

Even if it did taste like pulverised sugar cane, which is more or less what it is, the executives of N.V. Agriculture Co., Marienburg, Suriname, who produce it as a sideline to their main operation of making sugar, would probably still be on to a winning idea: for imported whisky has always been priced too highly for the average Surinamer's taste and the door always open for such a half-price brand.

Now, having proved the "Golden Arrow" blend good enough for them in the few short months of its existence, the Marienburg men reason that it is good enough to go on making in increasing quantities. In fact, distillery manager Andre MaAjong says, with perhaps an excusable bow to public relations: "I enjoy it very much myself." Then he adds: "With a dash of soda water." What he doesn't say is *how much* soda water.

Apart from their obligation to bread-line Suriname whisky drinkers, justification for the venture into such sacred territory was the fact that, with increased production, they were left with more of almost everything — including molasses and therefore its by-product alcohol. So they reckoned they might as well try to make it into whisky.

But tropical sugar factories, even such adventurous ones, have their limitations, and the company recognised that they couldn't go it entirely alone ... that somehow they had to give "Golden Arrow" an injection of the real Mackay. So they decided to import three-year-old malt from Scotland to blend with the local brew — and to submit the resulting mixture to regular quality control tests in Scotland.

Now the gold-and-red label is making significant inroads on the Suriname market and causing the Scots exporters more than a few headaches. "I read recently," says general affairs manager Roy Baptista blandly, "that they were a little upset."

But it could be worse for them. Although several types of rum, brandy and methylated spirits are produced at the Marienburg plant which exports to places like Curaçao, Holland, Germany and Switzerland, there are up to now no plans for the export of "Golden Arrow" — "least of all to Scotland. That would be like taking coals to Newcastle."

Meanwhile, back at the sugar factory headquarters, manager Gerrit Bos,

When in Suriname

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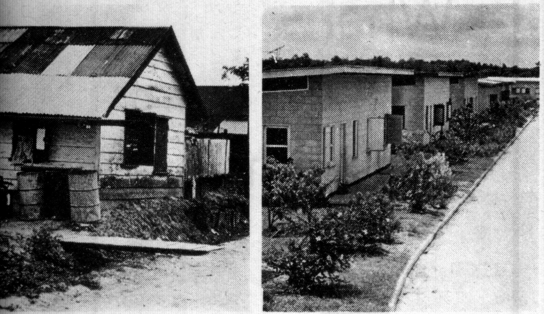
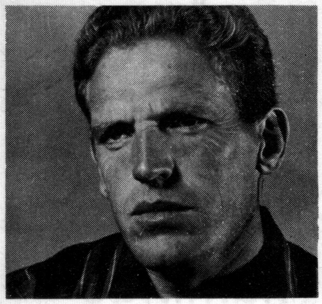


FROM TUMBLEDOWN TO SPARKLE
Bos can refine more than sugar



42, who stresses that "everybody wants to talk about whisky but our sugar production is by far the most important", is exercising a lot of export restraint all round. The problem is such that he might not even be irritated to hear of someone setting up a sugar cane plant in Scotland: there is a surplus on the market and the factory is now working at full capacity.

Bos, from the village of Alblasserwaard in South Holland, but more recently from the sisal fields of Sumatra and the sugar fields of Ethiopia, where he learned the sugar business, has seen at Marienburg the latter half of a four-year doubling of output, from 8,000 tons a year to over 15,000 tons.

What was once their total production those 8,000 tons, now constitutes their total export alone — to Holland ("though it's only about one per cent of the market there") — while the rest is consumed at home. "And now," says Bos with a tone of regret, "there is no point in expanding further until demand increases."

He has, however, found a new and rewarding way to keep going forward. In answer to complaints by the socially-conscious about the standard of housing provided for the 1,600 plantation workers at Marienburg (there were 3,800 Chinese, Indian and Javanese workers when the company started in 1882 as a typical colonial plantation, but now they are made up of all races) a programme of rehousing is now well under way.

Old wooden shacks are being rapidly replaced by sparkling new concrete buildings, television aerials are sprouting everywhere, and Bos says with justifiable sense of achievement: "We are very preoccupied with the welfare of our workers and their families, and we see to it that not only do they get improved free housing, but also free water, electricity and medical care."

Bos, a ruggedly handsome outdoor type, nevertheless lives with his wife and four children in an impressive, typical tropical planter's house, and perhaps that serves to make him aware that a happily-housed man is also an efficient man.

Not that there is any lack of efficiency at Marienburg, 100 per cent owned by Amsterdam's Rubber Culture company. But, as he proudly shows the visitor around the sugar-producing complex, from the hand-cutting of the cane through the crushing and refining process to the packaging, it is obvious that improved housing is not Bos's only means of going forward: he is also energetically devoted to the good businessman's eternal quest for even higher quality.

Bouncing bolle boss

■ Wherever the Royal and Ancient game of golf is played, from Gleneagles to Guatemala, it is more than an even bet that material for the cover of that elusive little ball came from Suriname. Not only from Suriname, but more particularly from the bolle trees which abound in the dense forests and which produce a little-known product called balata.

Baron of balata is a 53-year-old Surinamer, Edmund (Edje) Samson, who has a humorous bounce to match that of any golf ball that his product helps to cover. "I don't play golf myself. I have not got the time."

But Samson does have the time not only to export balata, but also to run a $600,000-plus annual rice export business as well as taking part in charity and Government organisations. To see Samson as a businessman in his Paramaribo office is to see only half the man.

Shrewd in commerce, but friendly to meet socially, Samson really comes into his own when he gets among his

DRUMS BEAT FOR SAMSON
Strong man of the balata jungle

beloved balata. Although it takes second place to the rice interests, balata is Suriname. More than 300 folk in the recesses of the jungle adjoining the country's big rivers work for Edje Samson and look forward to his frequent visits by boat in much the same way that Dutch children await the arrival of Sinterklaas.

"We just have concessions for the bolle trees from the Government. We are hoping soon to have our own plantation near Nickerie, in the west of the country," he prophesies. Few people in the country can command such a show of affection from his employees. Flags fly, drums beat and girls dance whenever Edje Samson appears at some jungle clearing. But he knows that he needs his workers as much as they need him.

"In its way," he says, "balata is a small article. But what I do object to is the opposition from manufacturers of synthetics. I don't mind them producing the same type of thing to cover golf balls, but they produce such offensive 'knocking' advertising copy. Now we are thinking of replying in advertisements to publicise balata."

The rice exports do not present so many problems. The crop, grown by Hindustani farmers, is shipped by Samson's firm — his 80-year-old father Philip is still active in it — to Europe and other Caribbean countries after it has been cleaned at their factory in Nickerie.

Perhaps the hidden factor behind Samson's success is not just his own business acumen, but the fact that he is a member of the Government arbitration negotiating committee on wages and working conditions. "I am also concerned in many other business, but I can only keep it up by keeping fit. Every Saturday some friends and myself attend a keep-fit club. It makes a lot of difference."

Gone fishin' no more

■ For years Paramaribo stevedores had turned up for work at the KNSM Royal Dutch Steamship Company's pier. Or had *not* turned up, depending whether they felt like going fishing instead. This could be frustrating for the company as well as a little insecure for the workers. Now both sides are happy with a shiny new contract agreement which ensures the regular services of the 130-strong labour force and provides them with a pension.

Man behind the move is KNSM's Suriname Manager, Haarlem-born Willem Hoogeboom ("sometimes they call me 'Smiling Bill' "). From his river-front office, he controls the activities of the shipping line that is the largest general cargo shipper in Suriname. "We have a weekly service from The Netherlands and a fortnightly service from the Gulf of Mexico and New York. Unlike the Netherlands Antilles, which has no exports but a lot of im-

ports, we handle a lot of exports". Like bauxite, alumina and aluminium; sugar and rice; citrus fruits and timber.

One of the regular callers at Paramaribo is KNSM's *Orange Nassau* which carries some 150 passengers as well as cargo to Suriname from Amsterdam by way of Southampton, Madeira and Georgetown in Guyana.

Few strangers realise that Paramaribo is not the only port of Suriname. "It takes two hours from the sea up the Surinam River to reach Paramaribo. But then it is another two-hour trip to the big Suralco port at Paranam," explains Hoogeboom. A second bauxite port is nine hours journey along the Cottica River to Moengo while, for the valuable rice exports, KNSM ships have to put into the West Surinam port at Nickerie and into Belwaarden for sugar.

But, despite the tortuous windings of the country's big rivers, KNSM Suriname manages to keep down costs and time-wasting by having some of the most modern loading and handling equipment for its varied cargoes. "Eighty per cent of our cargoes are palletised and they are moved swiftly by fork trucks on and off our ships. This is much quicker and, with our new labour agreement, we have a much better schedule," says Hoogeboom.

The swinging sell

■ The people of South America had barely had time to wipe the Olympic sweat from their brows before the mailman started delivering messages of the "Suriname Sell". But so rapidly has the event grown in size and reputation that come September 25 next year and the Suriname capital of Paramaribo will be the centre of a trade and commercial show unequalled in that part of the world.

Started in 1955, and opened by Queen Juliana, the Suriname Trade Fair has grown to become not only a shop-window for Suriname but also as a major display centre for goods and ideas from most of the world.

Says Fair foundation board member Daan Hillen: "We had more than 48,000 visitors to the 12-day fair last year and we expect more next year. The big appeal to visiting firms who have stands here is that in a short space of time you can reach one-seventh of the country's population."

In its relatively short history the Suriname Trade Fair has attracted participation from private firms as well as Governments from as far afield as Britain and Taiwan (Formosa), Denmark and Indonesia, Holland (not unnaturally) and Puerto Rico. "And usually," says Hillen, "ministers from participating countries visit the fair too."

More than 15 countries have already indicated that they will be "there at the fair" next September, which the organisers plan to be the biggest to date. With a visiting contingent from Jamaica providing some of the entertainment and fashion groups from Holland (see Fashion section), there seems little doubt that the 1969 Suriname Fair will be a swinging affair.

"The fair, contactable at P.O. Box 692 in Paramaribo, is a non-profit making organisation. We just want to show what is being done here," comments Hillen.

Doing business without money

■ **On the office desk high above the bustle of his Paramaribo trading company lies a copy of *The Rotarian* magazine with the headline "Doing business without money". But Jules de Vries has no need to read the article — he knows better than most how it's done.**

For his father, the late Henry J., started the company (now poised to gobble up the entire block of which it was once only a corner) with nothing but an irrepressible self-confidence and a good reputation.

The de Vries 1903 formula for doing business without money went as follows: Borrow 500 florins on an I.O.U. note; buy a plot of land; as a landowner, qualify for a mortgage to build a shop on the land; as a property owner, inspire confidence enough to stock it up on credit; become successful; then pay it all back.

Becoming successful was, of course, the tricky bit. Henry J. went about it like this: Offer out the store yard as overnight accommodation to Bush Negroes coming to town for supplies — on the condition that they buy their supplies (cloth, salt, beads, hammers, nails, knives) from de Vries.

"The word got around pretty fast," recalls Jules, "and the business grew even faster." So that, when Jules went to work there in 1935 after education in Amsterdam and a look at the rest of the world, it was firmly established and already had its own offices in Amsterdam.

To all this self-generated success, Henry J. added incidentally the first native Governorship of Suriname — from 1957 to 1958. Jules' brother Henry repeated the achievement in 1965 and retained the position until March this year, when he was succeeded by present Governor Ferrier.

Jules, however, admits to having no political ambitions — though he has been Danish consul in Suriname since 1959 — and prefers to channel his traditional de Vries energy into the continuing welfare of the company, which at present handles such well-known goods as White Horse whisky, Douwe Egberts Tobacco, BMC cars, and Electrolux, and boasts a staff of 344.

Pinewood promise

■ It's all very tentative at the moment and Hugo Burkhardt, 38-year-old managing director of the Suriname branch of the huge St. Regis American paper making company, declines to make any rash predictions. But it could be that in 10 years, Suriname will boast yet another brand new industry — in a big, highly productive paper mill.

Big and highly productive because St. Regis, with the kind of thinking it takes to maintains branches in 29 countries, seldom settles for anything less.

First step towards realisation is a scouting trip into the interior by St. Regis wood expert Bob Sage, from Jacksonville, Florida, to make a primary study of the pinewood plantations the Government started 13 years ago.

Explains Dutch-educated Burkhardt: "The point is to see whether or not it is worthwhile to start discussions with the Government about taking concessions. If the wood is good, we will show an interest in what the Government can offer us, with a view to producing in Suriname in our own right. But any extended plans for a paper mill could not possibly be finalised within 10 years."

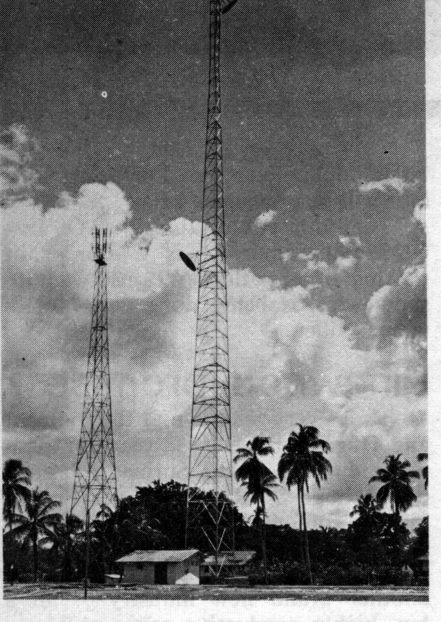
Present St. Regis operation in Suriname is confined to corrugated-board box-making, from imported raw materials (main customer the United Fruit company which uses the boxes for exporting bananas) and workers total an un-St. Regis-like 60 — but, as Burkhardt says, "it's a nice base to start."

Bush Telegraph

■ Even in the heart of Suriname's thickest bush country there is increasing evidence that the better the communications, the better the way of life.

This is the motto by which the men of International Telephone and Telegraph live and which spurs them to overcome the natural barriers the country raises against them. Explains ITT's assistant general manager in Suriname, Michel Meeuwissen: "We have had a great many problems but up to now we have laid more than 400 miles of underground cable and some 200 miles above ground."

Under an agreement with the Suriname Government, ITT came to the country to modernise and extend the telecommunications service. The American firm has also built an assembly plant for equipment which will be used in Suriname and also shipped to



REACHING FOR THE HEIGHTS
I.T.T. towers 300 ft. above Groningen

Europe. One of ITT's most recent, and impressive, construction jobs has been the 75-foot high radio tower at Wageningen. Despite the fact that all the material had to be brought by river from the port of New Nickerie, the tower shot up almost overnight. A regular, and frightening, sight for pilots of the low-flying crop-spraying planes was that of a construction worker perched on the tower's tip looking *down* on the aircraft.

Much of the equipment which ITT are installing is Dutch-made, although many of the technical staff come from the United States. But no matter what the country of origin, the fact remains that ITT is living up to its international reputation for the development of a young, vibrant country.

Licence to spend

■ One of the more pleasant advantages enjoyed by Suriname as an associate member of the European Common Market is that it is given time to *spend* money is the same way that most people are given a limited time to pay their bills.

Explains the EEC delegate for Suriname and the Netherlands Antilles, Adrieen van Oosten, 37: "The EEC has allocated about $70m. to be split between the Antilles and Suriname. But the association ends next year and the money has to be spent by then."

Of this amount Suriname has received $1,850,000 as a loan and the remainder as a grant. What happens if the money is not spent? "We just carry on until it is," says van Oosten. So far Suriname has benefited from EEC money by building roads, schools, a new Paramaribo market hall and agricultural projects.

Although the EEC funds are administered from Brussels, van Oosten commutes between Curaçao and Suriname, where he has a civil engineer assistant to supervise the projects.

Business

Things went better with Coke

■ From the top floor of an impressive, goods-packed department store in the heart of Paramaribo, Jules Fernandes looks out and watches over the commercial enterprise which is one of the country's biggest. Different sections, from automobile agencies to an ice-cream parlour, all bear his name.

But it was not always like this. "Fifty years ago I started with my father in a small bakery and soap factory," recalls the 67-year-old Surinamer. "We worked long hours, every day of the week including Sundays. But we were working for ourselves and we had faith in each other which made it worthwhile."

Things got slightly better between the two world wars, with Fernandes and Son expanding into the tanning and stationery business. Then shortage of raw materials between 1939 and 1945 forced them to close down the lucrative soap-making plant. But in its wake, the blast of war left behind some United States Army ice-cream machines and an old Coca Cola bottling plant which the Fernandes firm bought.

"Now Coke bottling is our principal line and, with the ice-cream, is the base of our present operations," says the man who still humbly remembers the other, poorer days.

Today the firm has several hundred employees and an annual turnover of "several million" dollars which is a cheering thought for Fernandes' two sons, both of whom are in the business. Not that Fernandes senior is thinking of retiring — "the moment I go out of the business, then I will become an old man."

Comparing the old days with the present years, Jules Fernandes can speak authoritatively on the economic growth of Suriname. "People today have more money to spend and the living standard is pretty good. For instance, there are very few cases of bad debts. This, I think, is a good sign."

Frothy fortune

■ People may complain occasionally about the heat and humidity of Suriname, but when that thermometer starts climbing so do the profits of possibly the most popular industry in the country — the Parbo brewery. In a year, more than a million gallons of crystal-clear beer flows out of the red-brick building which looks deceptively like a private mansion at first glance.

Unlike the Amstel brewery in Curaçao, which is owned by the Dutch brewery, majority shares in Parbo are owned by private individuals with the Heineken-Amstel group having only 43 per cent. The Suriname brewery building was started in 1954 and the first brew went on the market in December 1955 under its present name of Parbo which is an abbreviation of Paramaribo.

Although Parbo commands a more than healthy 95 per cent of the market life, according to one director, it is not all beer and skittles.

"The duty on beer is very high in Suriname," he says. "Out of every 58 Suriname cents for a litre, which is what we get for it, we have to pay 30 cents in duty and taxes."

Lest there be any crocodile tears, the brewery now intends to go on to seven-day working for about a year while the plant is extended and modernised.

Ice-cold to steel-hot

■ There is a story, probably apocryphal, told in Suriname of the enterprising shipper who brought cargoes of ice from Canada at the end of the last century to cool the drinks of the locals. More factual, however, is the history of the Curaçao Trading Company in Paramaribo.

Says CTC's local manager, Kees de Keyser: "When we started in 1893 it was as an ice factory, although under a different name. Then it became a steel foundry which still exists today, in a different part of the town". But perhaps the product of those early days for which CTC is best remembered is lemonade. "The older people of Paramaribo still recall our bottles with a little glass ball in the neck."

CTC, under its own name, started in Paramaribo around 1911 as an import-export firm which it is today. Housed in a carefully-chosen corner site building in the heart of the capital's commercial centre, this branch of the world-wide operation ranks among the top selling firms of Suriname.

One of de Keyser's proudest claims for CTC in Suriname is that it is probably the only company in the world that acts as agents for the complete range of Ford motor cars including their American, German and British models. "We are also general agents for KLM Royal Dutch Airlines and handle their aircraft at Zanderij Airport.

"It is noticeable how the mid-Atlantic air route to Europe is growing in comparison with the North Atlantic traffic. In total last year we had 1,700 outgoing passengers from here."

De Keyser has control over a firm that deals in almost everything from building ferries to importing X-ray equipment. One of the most impressive of recent orders was the importation of the six huge generators for the vast Afobaka hydro-electric scheme. A long way from the original ice-factory.

The sweet taste of success

■ If Edwin Schweig, 62, stood for a few minutes surveying the shrimp processing complex that he built out of an omelette, he could probably see the skyline changing. That's how it's growing: so fast and so wide that the most recent extension had to be accommodated actually in the Suriname river at Paramaribo.

The omelette? Schweig tasted it when he visited Paramaribo from New York in 1955, as a lawyer acting on behalf of a client interested in, but soon disillusioned about, shrimping prospects in Suriname.

"I thought it was delicious," he recalls, "though it didn't contain shrimps — just thumb-sized seabobs, usually used for fishing bait in the US."

The bait certainly hooked Schweig, though his client got away. Having surveyed the possibilities for commercial-sized-shrimp fishing in vain, the lawyer struck out on his own. He went straight to the Government and persuaded them to help him set up a pilot plant to see whether anything could be done with those "delicious" seabobs.

Soon Schweig's operation was underway, with 43 women workers and 165 small fishermen. Three years later, it was apparent that there were serious delivery problems — and even more serious marketing problems. "There was virtually NO market," he explains.

The crunch had come. In a last-gasp change of tactics, Schweig made the step from seine netting to trawling with the acquisition of two big fishing boats from Columbia. Encouraging start — "When they sailed into Paramaribo, the older one was being towed by the other."

But Schweig recalls, with a justifiable note of triumph: "They went fishing and brought back the first commercial catch of the most beautiful, large, pink, sweet-tasting shrimp ever taken from the north-east coast of South America."

As soon as the discovery was known, the fishing industry all over the world became interested. The result: there are now also shrimp plants in Barbados, Trinidad, Guyana, French Guiana, and Brazil and increasing activity of Russian, Japanese and Cuban factory ships in the area.

Result that has most pleased managing director Schweig and wife Serena — now spending more time in Paramaribo away from their New York home — is, of course, the energising effect on his Suriname American Industries plant, now highly mechanised and booming with 400 workers, served by 55 fishing boats.

Business and mission, side by side

■ All the employees of Suriname's biggest and oldest department store knew what it was all about when they enjoyed the birthday party and the 200 guilder bonus. C. Kersten and Company was 200 year old. Earlier this year the party guests from more than 10 countries also knew about it. But the fact that many of them did not know was that Kersten's or CKC, was the indirect result of the death of Hungarian nobleman/missionary Justin von Weltz in Suriname in 1668.

One of his staunchest followers was an Austrian count, Nikolaus Zinzendorf, who renounced his title, and who — after studying in Utrecht and The Hague — determined to carry on the good work, preaching to the so-called "heathens".

He gave refuge to the fleeing Moravian sect from Central Europe — and land on which they built a meeting house, appropriately called Herrnhut, or The Lord's care. It was from that ancient and religious beginning that Suriname's major commercial concern has grown. Says present-day managing director, Jozias de Kraker: "We now have 1,800 employees and are the third biggest private employer of labour in Suriname."

But it was not always so. The Moravian Brothers or Herrnhutters were early misionaries firmly entrenched in the principle of self-maintenance, and in the 17th century they spread all over the world.

After pitiful years of hardship, terror and starvation on what was then the "Wild Coast of Guiana" on the east coast of South America, the Brothers (those of them who survived) managed to preach to the people while teaching them various trades brought across the stormy Atlantic.

Then a young, ex-tailor from German Saxony travelled to Amsterdam en route for that same Wild Coast, which is today the gentle, green, developing country of Suriname. Christoph Kersten was a Herrnhutter determined to follow Zinzendorf's doctrine of prayer with practice.

With two other Brothers, he bought a piece of property which today is the merchandising centre of Paramaribo and the heart of the various other industries which bear the name of Kersten. But back in 1778 it was basically a tailor-shop with facilities for other arts and crafts provided for two reasons — to help the newly-converted Bush Negroes and Indians and to keep the Brothers and their families alive in what was then an inhospitable country. As an eminent Suriname historian puts it: "Business and mission proceeded side by side".

"For our 200th anniversary celebrations," says managing director de Kraker, "we naturally invited the Moravian community who, after all, are still the owners". What they now own ranges from a modern hotel in the centre of the city through an export business and offices in New York and Hamburg

STARTING FROM A TAILOR SHOP . . .
How to sew up today's market

But the department store on Steenbakkerijstraat still dominates the town's trading, occupying as it does the site of the old shops where Brother Christoph toiled and worried through the hot, tropical days. Cuckoo clocks and TV sets, ice-cream and paperbacks, Paris perfume and Paramaribo souvenirs — all there in one cool, well-managed store.

But life has not always been so cool for the man who now heads the extensive Kersten operation. Says de Kraker: "I came here as a graduate in agriculture from the Dutch University of Wageningen 33 years ago to grow bananas. This company was established in Holland in the last World War. As a result I was out of a job. At Kersten, all the top men were interned."

Born in Zeeland, the farm-boy moved on to Kersten plantations as manager and ended up, 25 years ago, as manager of the company. During the anniversary celebrations this year, de Kraker gave proof not only of his own contribution to the company, but also of the share that Kersten and Company has paid to the economy of Suriname. All employees got a 200 guilder bonus and that meant *all*, including Mr. de Kraker. A gesture which was recognised by friends and rivals alike as being in the true tradition of that Austrian count and the German tailor who built an empire out of a wilderness.

Ship-shape boost

LAUNCHING OF THE CORANTIJN

■ Few weeks ago anyone interested in the not-so-schoolboy hobby of ship spotting added a new name to their lists of vessels entering Paramaribo harbour. The Corantijn, proud new flagship of the Suriname Shipping Company's fleet, had just completed her maiden voyage from the Makkum, Holland, shipyard and was ready to start work.

Started in 1936, with one ocean-going freighter, the Queen Emma, the line now plies regularly between Suriname, the Caribbean islands and the United States. Explained general manager Philibert Chin: "When SSM started it was partly owned by private companies and The Netherlands Government. Today all the shares belong to the Suriname Government, but we are still a commercial company".

Shortly after the end of World War II, the line's two tried workhorses — the Queen Emma and Prince Bernhard — were sold to make way for the new look in cargo vessels. Deciding to name the new ships after the country's great rivers, SSM started in 1950 with the Tapanahonie, the Gran Rio, the Suriname and, now, the Corantijn. "You can see the difference," says Chin. "The Tapahonie could carry only 700 tons, but the new ship has a capacity of 4,100 tons deadweight and can take eight passengers."

These are no ocean giants, but SSM vessels are importantly boosting Suriname's overseas trading in timber and bananas, rice and rubber. Last year the line brought in almost 14,000 tons of imports and carried away from Suriname more than 6,000 tons of goods.

"We are now negotiating with the Alcoa Steamship Company to carry some bauxite in our new ship to Mobile, Alabama," says Chin. It was fitting that Mr. Chin's charming wife Georgine should have performed the traditional champagne-cracking ceremony on the Corantijn. Her husband has worked for SSM almost since the company was formed and now, as manager, he sees a new expansion for the line in the future.

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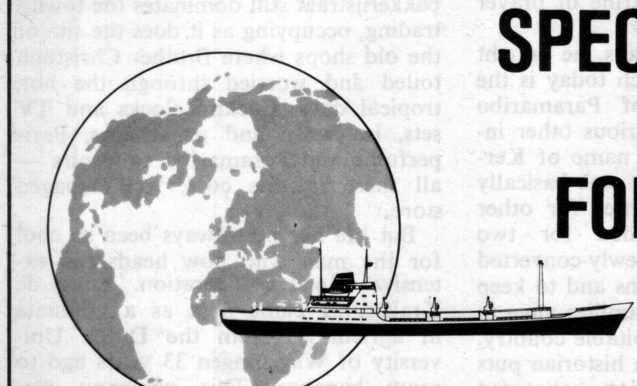

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Mr Promotion

■ Right across the street from The Hague's Peace Palace is a shining glass and concrete building which, in its own way, contributes as much to the well-being of parts of the world as do the learned deliberations of the judges of the International Court of Justice. No. 4, Carnegie Square is the home of the Foundation for the Promotion of Investments in Suriname. Although a mere two years old, this Dutch-Government-backed organisation has already made a considerable impression on the economic and commercial development of Suriname.

Man behind the idea is Willem Bruynzeel, whose timber company is already a byword both in Holland and Suriname. "Just after the war, although we had a small business in The Netherlands, my wife and I went to Suriname and decided to start a business there." But starting a business in a new country costs money, so Bruynzeel went to the Dutch Government and asked them to help with 49 per cent of the original investment. "I told them I would not charge for my work or my know-how."

After his retirement two years ago, Bruynzeel persuaded the Government to widen that original idea. Principle behind the Foundation is to get the Government to accelerate private enterprise by covering any large financial risk.

"Our idea when we started the Foundation," explains Bruynzeel, 67, "was that private business opening up in Suriname should not only help themselves by profits, but should also help the country in development. In the case of my firm, we always ploughed our profits back into the country."

The Dutch Government's backing amounted to some $15m. but the spending of it is controlled by Bruynzeel and his four-man board consisting of Messrs. Oyevaar, Renooij, Staf and Sedney, with ex-Bruynzeel company man Leendert van Pelt carrying out the organisation.

"What we do," says Bruynzeel, "is to give out the money and then see it multiplies so that we can pay the money back to the Government. It is not our intention to keep the money. We want to accelerate development and then get out."

Inquiries should be made to: L. van Pelt, Foundation for the Promotion of Investment in Suriname, Carnegieplein 4, The Hague, Holland.

Putting on a bit more weight

■ The latest step in the continuing growth of Curaçao as a world port was taken last month when Netherlands Antilles Prime Minister Ciro Kroon dug the first shovelful of earth out of a hole which will become the largest commercial graving dock in Central and South America.

The occasion also marked the biggest move to date in the future of the Curaçao Drydock Company (CDM). When the new dock is completed in three years time, it will be able to handle ships of up to 120,000 tons and will have cost more than $12m.

At present CDM's Beatrix graving dock, with a length of 633 feet, can take ships of 28,000 tons. "But," says a company spokesman, "the new dock will be more than 900 feet in length with a width of 157 feet." The company's labour force will be increased by about 350 people and the facilities will also be extended and modernised. Two new 75 ton cranes, for instance, will be three times as heavy as the existing ones.

Having been credited with the best docking facilities in the whole of the Caribbean area by World Ports magazines, it is not surprising that CDM's annual turnover is in the region of $6m. Last year the company handled an impressive 868 ships with repairs, "ranging from $15 to $150,000."

A big plus-point in CDM's operation is that, in handling ships of almost every nationality, there is never any language problem. "We have technical people who speak Spanish, German, English and Dutch and supervisors for the labour force who speak Italian and Portuguese. Although it is a heavily Dutch-influenced company, it is entirely operated in Curaçao."

In some 30 years CDM has built up a reputation for quality work which it is now passing on to the local people who are, more and more, occupying senior posts. Another aspect on which CDM scores is charges, which although about 35 per cent higher than European countries, are 15 per cent lower than in the United States. Adds the spokesman: "Since 1963, however, our costs have not risen as much as those in Europe."

Although the mammoth new dock is the biggest project yet undertaken by the company, it is still only part of a bigger development scheme which will, eventually, provide basins for the huge, monster tankers now a-building.

Boom in the sun

■ There was a time when the only boom affecting Curaçao was the noise the great cannons made when they were fired from the harbour-protecting fort. Nowadays that boom comes from tourists who revel in this island in the sun (Holland Herald, August 1967) and whose presence in ever-increasing numbers has led to an extension of that fort.

The fort is now the Inter-continental Hotel, one of the first in a now long line of successful hostelries which the island now boasts.

Says general manager Tony Marques: "Our new tower extension, which should be finished in 18 months, will add another 134 rooms to the hotel and will also have a royal suite on the 12th floor with a penthouse cocktail lounge." Total cost will be around $2m., but Inter-continental, like the Antilles Government, has confidence in the future of tourism. As a new resort for North and South Americans Curaçao and The Antilles have an almost unlimited appeal. Especially for $150 round-trip from New York.

For people who eat between bets

■ There's an old New York saying that "If you're out of town — you're out of pastrami." But there is one New Yorker who is way, way out of New York and determined that no-one in The Netherlands Antilles or the Caribbean is going to be out of pastrami.

Mike Warren, 44, is the man and Curaçao is his base. After being a successful owner of bakeries and food servicing companies in his native New York, Warren took a post-illness convalescing trip which included Curaçao.

"I liked it right away and I realised the great potential for a delicatessen restaurant, with all the US tourist ships coming in. I talked to a lot of people who agreed it would be a good idea," says Warren.

And now there it is. Smack in the middle of Willemstad's busy Gomez Plaza (already a meeting point for most of the cruise-ship visitors) there is the Plaza Deli. Importing retired chefs Molly and Dick from New York (Molly used to play mood music in the old silent film matinees), Warren is now offering everything from bagels and lox to stuffed derma and pizza.

With his two New York-based partners, Warren has now formed a company in Curaçao and planted an investment of $100,000 into the rocky, but hospitable, island soil.

"I see this as a pilot deli for the rest of the Caribbean. With take-out meals, plus more than 100 places in the restaurant and the sidewalk café, we should do pretty well."

Apart from the cruise visitors, the Plaza Deli should also have an especial appeal for hungry gamblers. "We intend to stay open until three in the morning so that people who want a snack between bets can come in," says Warren.

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Turn your head and see the world

■ Unlike the French, the Suriname people not only have a word for it — they have a whole sentence. "To see Suriname is to see the world." And this is no idle boast. Any visitor from either North or South America, as well as Europe, can, in this vast lush country, transport himself to the farthest corners of the earth without doing anything more energetic than just turning his head.

In the country's ancient capital of Paramaribo people of different ethnic origins live together in a kaleidoscope of vivacity and harmony that has to be seen to be believed. Check on a map and the country of Suriname is in (but only just in) South America. Check in Suriname itself and — going from left to right — there are Bush Negroes, Creoles, Chinese, Amerindians, Javanese, Hindustanis and Europeans to name only a few.

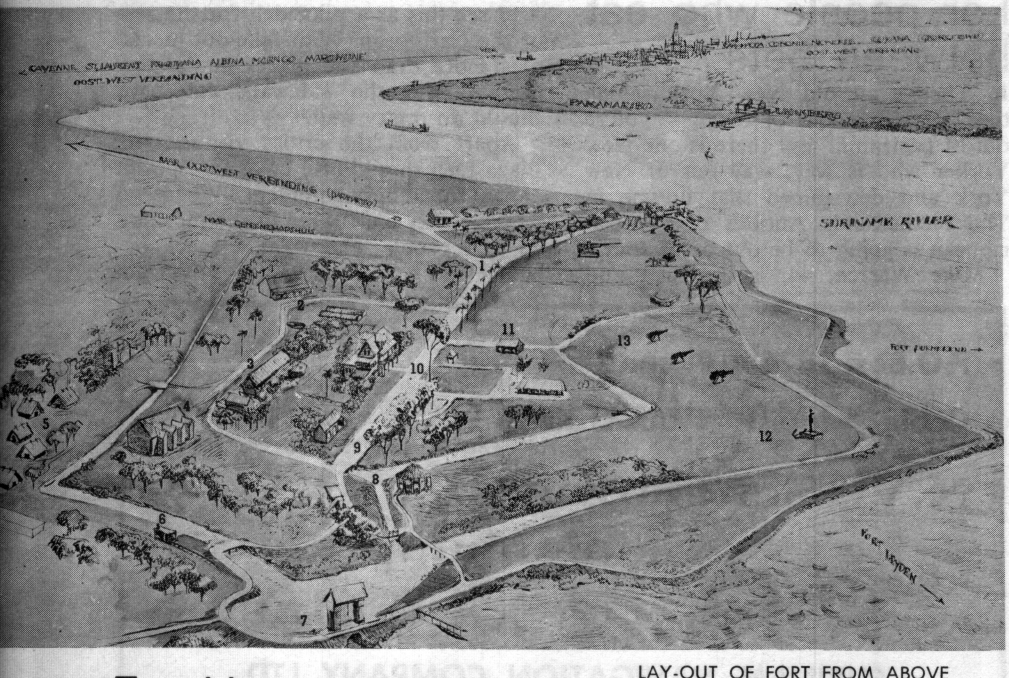
This is the world in microcosm that two enthusiastic tourism directors are trying to sell. In Suriname itself Fernand de Rooij is director of the Tourist Development Board, while in New York's Rockefeller Plaza is the Suriname Tourist Bureau, headed by John Nelson.

Says de Rooij: "Despite the relatively small numbers — 14,600 last year — tourism in Suriname is increasing. The increase over 1966 was 32 per cent. Unlike the Netherlands Antilles, for instance, we cannot attract large cruise ships, because of the mudbanks in Paramaribo and the river entrances." But the growing interest in the United States in this land of wild contrasts is encouraging the Government to consider spending a little more on attracting visitors.

There are few places in Africa, and none in the Western world apart from Suriname where sensation-seeking safari-ers can glimpse the Bush Negroes descended from runaway slaves and living as they did centuries ago.

In anticipation both of the future influx of tourists and the Dutch Government's survey on tourism, Suriname Government planners are thinking in terms of building hotels or comfortable guest-houses in the

Continued on Page 58



LAY-OUT OF FORT FROM ABOVE

Fort New Amsterdam stands by for the tourist invasion

■ Three hundred years ago, or 301 to be exact, Commander Abraham Crijnssen from Zeeland captured Suriname from the British who at the time were in possession of that colony on the north-east coast of South America.

That same year, in 1667 at the Treaty of Breda, it was decided that the British could keep New Amsterdam in North America, which they had captured a few years previously, while the Dutch remained in possession of Suriname.

It has always been a point of controversy which of the two parties came out on top. Looking back, however, it seems that the Dutch made the smartest deal, since nobody succeeded in wresting Suriname permanently from them anymore until they granted the colony full autonomy in 1954 as an equal partner under the Crown. New York, on the other hand, became part of the American Republic.

Also the name New Amsterdam was not lost to the Dutch in the Western Hemisphere. Mostly to defend the many fertile plantations along the banks of the Suriname and Commewijne rivers in Suriname against new attempts to capture the colony by British as well as French and other raiders, who regularly sailed up these rivers, they decided to build Fort New Amsterdam at the confluence of both.

Governor Jacob Alexander Henry de Cheusses, who remained in his post for only one month and a half, laid in 1734 the first stone for the fort, which was finished around 1749, with some supporting redoubts on the facing banks of the rivers.

It was a spectacular and formidable fortress for its time, built in the form of a pentagon, surrounded by a moat, with five bastions commanding all approaches. No wonder in later years American warships also sought refuge under its guns when pursued by the British.

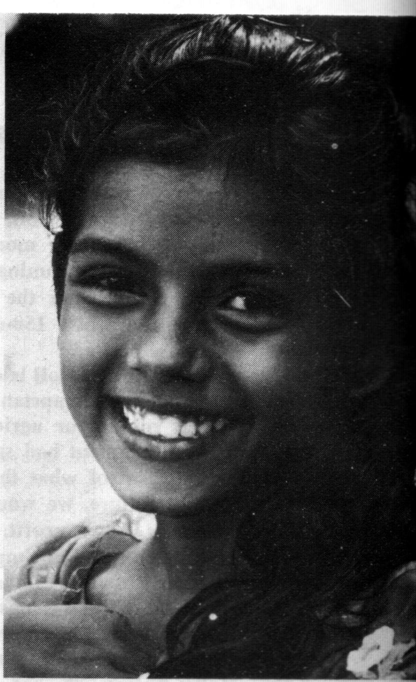
The fort also had a secondary purpose: namely to offer the plantations security against the runaway slaves who had formed rebel armies to free their comrades and obtain freedom in the jungle.

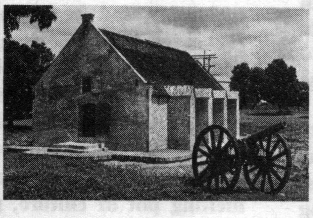
As an interior line of defence, some 30 miles upstream, the Cordon Path was laid from the old Jewish settlement at Jodensavannah on the Suriname river to the Commewijne.

All precautions notwithstanding, Fort New Amsterdam had to capitulate early in the 19th century for a superior force of over 30 British warships with some 4,000 men, commanded by Charles Green and Samuel Hood, who put landing parties ashore to surround the fort completely. The occupying force was allowed to surrender with full honours.

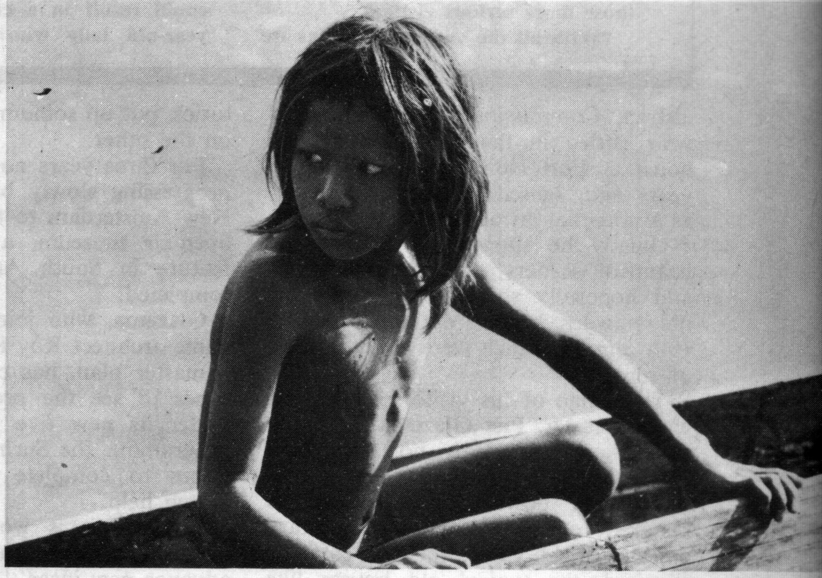
The British left soon afterward, however, but the Dutch colonial authorities still had to contend with the runaway slaves who were not unsuccessful either and with whom a series of peace treaties had to be signed, allowing them to develop their still-self-governing tribes of Bush Negroes in the Suriname interior.

The fort, which during the Second World War played a minor role again in the defence of Suriname, has in the meantime lost its original meaning. As the administrator of the Commewijne





The many faces of Suriname



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From Page 56

interior. "In Paramaribo itself," says ex-Pressman de Rooij, "the Torarica Hotel is building more rooms and Kertsen's are planning a new 100-room hotel while the Palace Hotel is to build a new 150-room hotel on its present site."

Director de Rooij is convinced that tourism is as important to the country as mining or agriculture — "If the Government had spent one tenth on tourism of what they have spent on agriculture, we would have made a much bigger profit. But we have still made quite an impact."

Much of that impact has come from the United States in what Suriname's man in New York calls "rapid progress". Tourism Director John Nelson, 38, has done much to attract American visitors by offering them the primitive jungle trips, exciting big-game fishing for tarpon in the country's teeming rivers and an anthropological gold lode for those more serious visitors.

"With all the variety of things we can offer, plus good hotel accommodation, I think there is a very bright future for tourism in Suriname," says Nelson.

Without even leaving Paramaribo, although a bush trip is recommended, the "world in miniature" slogan is proved. Restaurants like Iwan's provide authentic Chinese food from which the gourmet can start to run the whole gamut from Indonesian rijsttafel to the local heavy meal known as pom. Nightclubs, casinos, even a strip-club bring a breath of the sophistication of the Western world to this corner of history.

One word of warning to North Americans beware the traffic which, for some reason no-one seems to know, drives on the left side of the road as in Britain.

But apart from the natural beauty of the country, there are the people, all of whom have some interest for the visitor. A casual stroll along one of Paramaribo's colourful streets could result in a chat with a 103-year-old lady who remembers her childhood as clearly as most people remember last night's TV movie.

A canoe trip along the Marrowijn River may lead to the river-bank shop of Armand Teillol. As a shop it may not be unique, but Armand, now 72, is an escapee from the former penal colony in French Guiana. Born in the Dordogne area of France, Teillol is now regarded as a friend to the Amerindians and Bush Negroes who come to him for salt, sugar and tobacco.

Another "must", if it can be arranged, is to attend a Hindu wedding ceremony. This colourful, yet occasionally sad ceremony, continues for several hours, usually at night, and the air is filled with the scent of incense and the weird music brought thousands of miles from the culture of the Indian sub-continent.

All in all, Suriname is truly a melting pot of culture, tradition and beliefs which encompasses anything and everything the would-be world traveller could wish for.

district, Commissioner James Douglas who settled in the old Commander's house at Fort New Amsterdam a few years ago, sensed its value, however, as a potential attraction for visitors.

Quietly he started to enhance the beautiful scenery of its surroundings and hopefully showed his guests the old powder houses dating from the 18th century, which were badly in need of repair.

Then, one of his visitors, Dutch archeologist Dr. Piet Glazema, hit upon a brilliant idea: Why not turn Fort New Amsterdam into an open-air museum? The powder houses could be restored to house articles of military and historical value, the old cannons repaired, the typical old houses like the one Commissioner Douglas himself lives in spruced up, the old, ruined windmill rebuilt, and the surrounding grounds turned into parks and recreational areas where whole Bush Negroes and Amerindian villages could be built to show tourists how people are still living in the interior.

The Suriname Government, whom James Douglas approached for help, agreed. A foundation was started with Douglas as chairman and a membership which included tourism director Fernand de Rooij. But the Government could offer only limited financial support.

Then friends in Suriname and Holland came to the rescue. The Suriname brewery, a subsidiary of Amstel Beer of Holland, put up the first money to start work on the restoration of the main powder house. The Sticusa, a cultural organisation which stimulates cultural activities in the overseas territories, put up some more to start work on the other.

For three years now, work has been progressing slowly but surely at Fort New Amsterdam to turn it into a real open-air museum, a unique touristic feature in South America. It is not completed.

Glazema, who joined up with Suriname architect Roy Emanuels to make a master plan, has come back several times to see the project grow. Now, under its new five year development programme, the Suriname Government hopes to complete the project with Dutch help.

Already, it is worth visiting. And ever more visitors are impressed and advance new ideas.

"You should build a big hotel here with a golf course," says one.

"You should use hydrofoils for fast transportation from Paramaribo," another suggests.

The imaginative Douglas smiles when he hears all this. His dream has not quite come true. But all contributions are gratefully accepted until it does.

Jodensavannah refound

■ The settlement was, by today's standards, less than an hour's drive from Paramaribo. But back in the 17th century it presented a more formidable journey through swamp and forest plagued by insects, reptiles and animals.

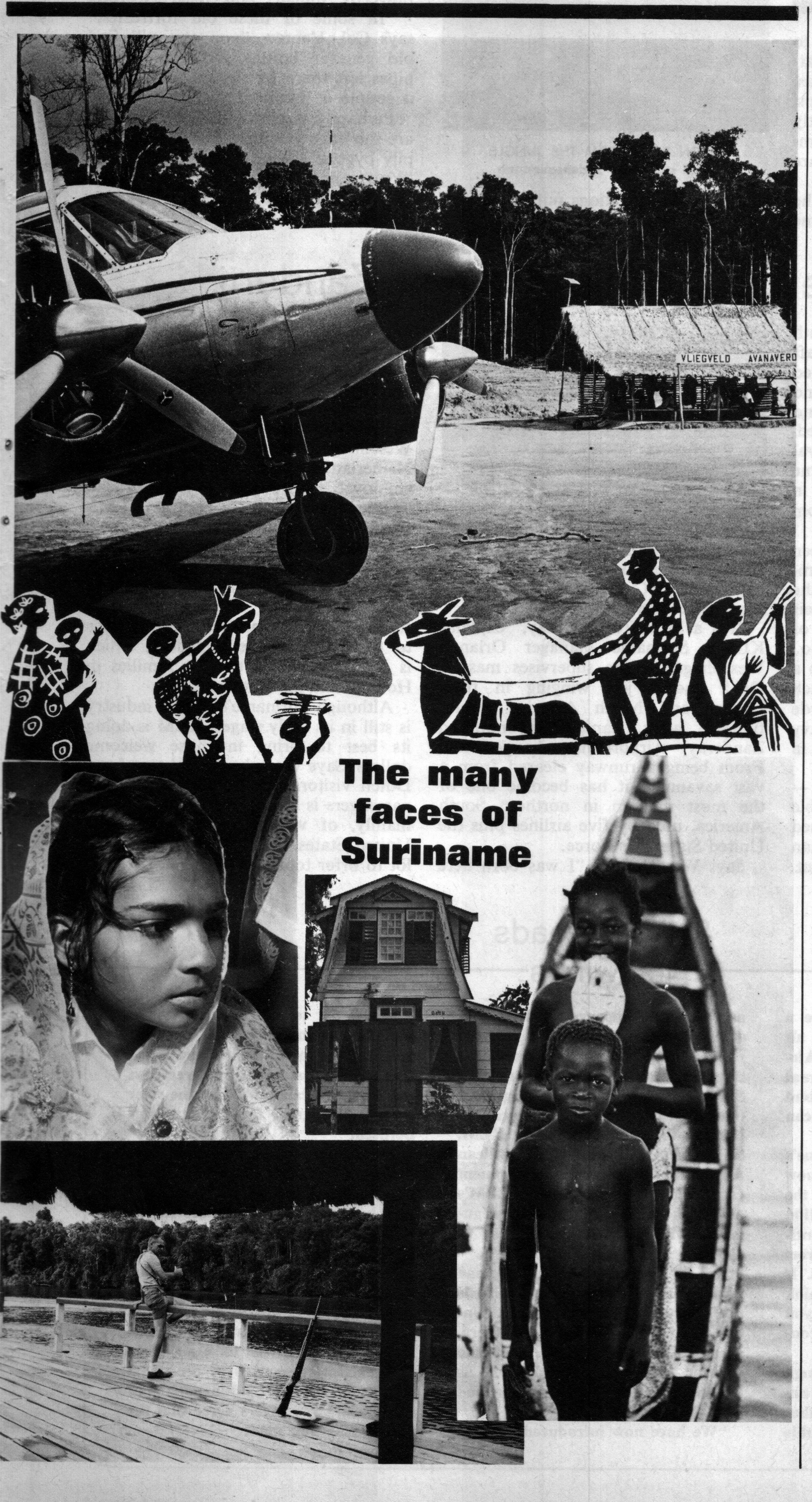
Yet it was on this patch of flat land that a group of Jews, fleeing from persecution in Europe and Brazil, found peace and the chance to live their own lives. They cultivated the area, traded with the local people and brought their goods by water to Paramaribo, some 50 miles away and named the land Joden (Jewish) Savannah.

Before 1697 the Jewish community had been tolerated by the then-British rulers, but in that year the Dutch reclaimed Suriname and allowed the settlers all the human rights. Originally the settlers were Portuguese Jews, but later they were joined by a group of English refugees. In addition to living quarters, Jodensavannah soon had a synagogue and a tragically-large cemetery.

But time, and rapidly dropping produce prices, took their toll and the Jews were forced to abandon their plantations. For more than a century the ever-encroaching jungle covered the silent graves and broke down the walls of the house of prayer.

Then, a few years ago, the wheel of history turned its full, ironical circle. After being pursued and persecuted by religiously-inspired soldiers, this old Jewish haven was rediscovered by a soldier and a Dutch soldier at that. Col. Dirck Vooren (see Off-beat) was in the Jodensavannah area and literally stumbled across the moss and lichen-covered grave stones.

"I sent up a patrol to the area and we cleaned up the stones, many of which have beautiful engravings on them," he recalls. But even that did not satisfy the sentimental soldier. From his extensive reading about the old settlement, Col. Vooren knew there was a second cemetery which had not been found. Eventually, after considerable searching, he found it — and now



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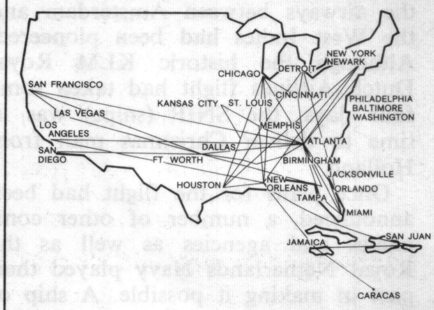

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Tourism

these stones too have been cleaned to make up one of the most unusual attractions for visitors that Suriname has.

Following in the Colonel's footsteps, the Suriname Government has recently issued a series of stamps commemmorating Jodensavannah and there are now plans to rebuild the synagogue.

Another exciting "find" made by the Dutch Army commander in Suriname is the old fortifications put up to protect the plantations from irritating raids by Indians and Bush Negroes.

WON BACK FROM THE JUNGLE
The stones of Jodensavannah

"In some of these old fortresses," says Col. Vooren, "you can still find old genever bottles and Gouda clay pipes left there by the garrison troops a couple of hundred years ago."

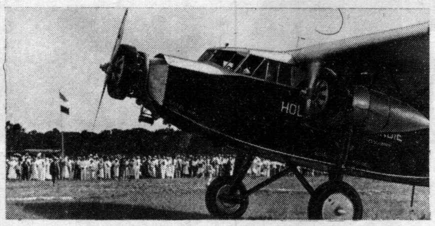
Perhaps the most sinister relics of all are the huge cannons. Recalling a happily bygone age, Col. Vooren explains: "You cannot move those guns today. It would have needed a lot of slaves to shift them."

How time flies, on the way to Zanderij

■ Exactly 34 years ago to the month a frail, three-engined Fokker aircraft touched down at the hurriedly-prepared Zanderij airstrip near Paramaribo and the airways between Amsterdam and the West Indies had been pioneered. Although the historic KLM Royal Dutch Airlines flight had taken some four days, the SNIP (snipe) was in time to deliver Christmas mail from Holland.

Once plans for the flight had been announced, a number of other companies and agencies as well as the Royal Netherlands Navy played their part in making it possible. A ship of the Royal Netherlands Steamship Co., changed course so that it could keep a "weather eye" open on the long stretch between Porto Praia in the Cape Verde Islands and Paramaribo. And a Navy submarine was ordered to stand by in case of emergency.

The flight was fairly uneventful — apart from one brief and inexplicable engine stoppage — and SNIP crossed the South American coast less than four miles from the intended point.



FIRST ARRIVAL: THE 1934 SNIP

After speeches, gift exchanging and general jubilation in Paramaribo, SNIP continued the pioneer trip to Venezuela and ended at Curaçao to begin KLM's then, newest service.

"It's a lot different today," explains KLM's Suriname manager Orlando Wesenhagen as he supervises massive DC-8 and 9 jets winging in from Europe and North America several times a week. Zanderij (pronounced Zanderay) Airport has changed too. From being a runway cleared from a vast savannah, it has become one of the most modern in northern South America, used by five airlines plus the United States Air Force.

Says Wesenhagen: "I was born here in Suriname 50 years ago. I am about the same age as KLM itself (50 next year) and I have seen our business almost double since 1960." But he has not always been an airline man. After an unhappy period as a schoolteacher, Wesenhagen went to Aruba in the Netherlands Antilles as an oil company employee before joining the Curaçao Trading Company. He became KLM's Suriname agent in 1961.

"Since the introduction of the E 40 fare for travel within the Kingdom of The Netherlands we have been able to reach a new layer of passengers. This fare reduces by half fares for citizens to travel within the Kingdom, which is ideal for people to visit families in Holland and the Antilles".

Although Suriname's tourist industry is still in its early stages, KLM is doing its best to bring in those welcome dollars. Says Wesenhagen: "Apart from Dutch visitors, the number of foreign passengers is also growing. This is true mainly, of visitors coming from the United States. This country still has a lot to offer tourists."

SLM spreads its wings

■ **Not so much an airline more a diplomatic service. That could almost be the motto of Surinam Airlines. Formed in 1962 as an internal service, SLM is now looking beyond its borders to other South American countries.**

Says Henricus Bernsen of the line's commercial department: "We are now looking with great interest at the possibility of developing aviation within the South American continent. Suriname still needs direct connections with other countries. It seems to us that people still think of South America as a place you see only in movies. There is no contact.

"What we need is to get through traffic from the big South American cities, via Suriname, to the other continents. We are working on this as a means to improve relations with other governments."

First step in this international direction was taken last year when SLM began flying to Georgetown (Guyana), Trinidad and Curaçao as part of the pool formed by KLM, SLM and ALM, the Dutch Antillean Airline. Most recent development came a few weeks ago when SLM's own Dakota aircraft started a regular service from Paramaribo to Cayenne in French Guiana.

But in its determination to spread its international wings, the airline is not neglecting its own people. Under general manager George Viera, an ex-KLM veteran, SLM serves the interior of the country as well as the major cities of Paramaribo and New Nickerie.

"We have now introduced a cheap package tour to the favourite tourist spot of Stoelmans Island. For $68 you can fly to the island and back, stay at the guest house for three days and take two canoe trips up the river through the great forests," explains Bernsen.

In addition to the passenger fleet of four DC 3's and two of the versatile De Havilland Twin Otters, SLM also has three Piper Pawnees for its subsidiary crop spraying company which is playing an important part in the development of Suriname agriculture. Perhaps the most attractive part of the SLM operation is the selection of air stewardesses. Boasts Bernsen: "We have six girls. One chosen from each of the racial groups that make up the people of Suriname." Passengers agree that the choice was well made.

STOELMAN'S ISLAND GUEST HOUSE

Yes, this is the jungle. These days you don't need a strong tent and a stronger native bearer to live there. Just take along a toothbrush. And you don't need a machete to get through it. Try a dug-out. Or an airplane. You'll find the natives friendly.

RIVER TRIP BY DUG-OUT

INDIAN WELCOME

BUSH NEGRO WELCOME

HINDUSTANI WEDDING

And back in town, you'll find a mini-world you never dreamed you'd ever see in one intriguing country.

■ *For further information, contact the Surinam Tourist Development Board, 10 Kerkplein, P.O. Box 656, Paramaribo, Surinam. Telephone: 3733. Or Surinam Tourist Bureau, 10 Rockefeller Plaza, Suite 1104, New York 10020. Telephone: (212) 581 - 3063.*

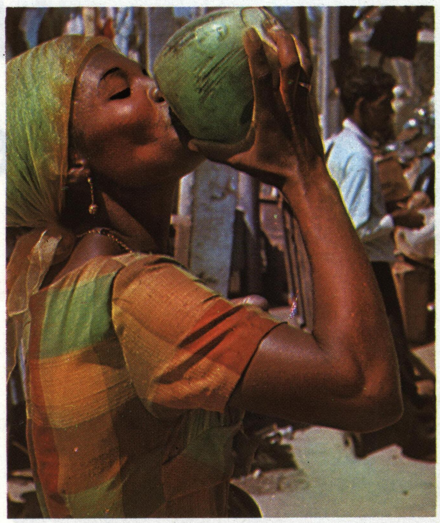
AMERINDIANS SAIL IN IT

BUSH NEGROES CARVE IT

TIMBER! Many different types of people do many diffe

FIRST BUILD A JUNGLE ROAD (LEFT)
THEN USE IT (ABOVE) TO GET THE TIMBER TO THE RIVER

CHINESE BUILD WITH IT



CREOLES COOL OFF WITH IT

EUROPEANS BURN IT

rent things with the forest fortune of Suriname. But...

THE SPREADING BRUYNZEEL TREE PUTS THEM ALL IN THE SHADE

■ With the spirit of an angry bull, the pugnacious little yellow tractor, affectionately known as the tree-dozer, charges relentlessly into the tall, tangled jungle and tree follows tree to a horizontal end, like a collapsing pack of cards.

It is the first stage towards the creation of a product of human ingenuity

Continued on Page 65

WHERE MEN AND MACHINES DO WOODEN WONDERS

THEN LET THE RIVER TAKE CARE OF TRANSPORT TO THE TOWN PLANT

The great aeroplant

AT WAGENINGEN: MECHANISATION IN THE AIR AND ON THE LAND HELPS REAP A RICH HARVEST

■ The black, almost motionless Corantijn River is the natural border between Suriname and its western neighbour Guyana. But the great river is more than just a geographic dividing line. It serves as the demarcation line between the primitive jungle on one bank and a scene of highly-developed agricultural progress on the other.

Stretching further than the eye can see is the huge, imaginative Wageningen project for the mechanised growing of one of the world's staple food crops — rice. Seventeen years ago men and machines, financed by a Dutch foundation, hacked and hewed their way through the dense bush to create that byword of Dutch ingenuity, the polder.

By drainage methods perfected over the centuries, the torrid coastal area around what is now the town of Wageningen was reclaimed and made ready for seeding. Today almost 18,000 acres of polderland is under cultivation, contributing to the export figures of Suriname and deserving its reputation of being the biggest mechanised rice-growing scheme in the world.

Named after the world-famous agricultural university at Wageningen, Holland, the Wageningen in Suriname could easily resemble a large chunk of reclaimed land in what used to be the Zuiderzee. Except for one thing — the jungle and swamp that surrounds it and reminds the 3,000 town inhabitants of how those early pioneers brought order out of primaeval chaos.

The chatter of monkeys and the

screech of exotic birds in the green curtain that screens Wageningen is today drowned by the roar of crop-spraying aircraft (appropriately called Suriname Skyfarmers) and the clank of an army of combine harvesters caterpillar-marching in review order across the rich parade grounds of rice.

Explains Cees Overwater, Wageningen's deputy Director for Production and Technology: "After the visit of a Dutch commission, a pilot farm was started here in 1949 and the scheme was opened officially a year later by Prince Bernhard." Originally, the project was intended for emigrant Dutch farmers to produce rice on units of about 150 acres. This did not prove workable and later it was decided to divide the area into four huge divisions of several thousand acres each — run by managers and supervisors.

Latest development, on a newly-reclaimed polder, is the establishment of some 40 small farms of around 50 acres, run by local people. But they have the use of all the research, technical and mechanical facilities of the Wageningen centre. The small farmers then sell their crop to Wageningen where it is processed and exported.

Speaking of the periods of heart-breaking trial and error in the early days of the scheme, Overwater says: "Now we know how to reclaim the land and we know how to grow rice successfully in this climate. Not even in the United States are there farmers who can grow rice as we do. We are the biggest mechanised rice farming area."

And mechanised it certainly is. Once the bush has been cleared by bulldozers, explosives and vegetation poisoning, the Skyfarmers roar in at a height of a few feet to plant the seeds from the air. Then the great green and red combine harvesters move in to reap the rich yield which in turn is mechanically hulled and polished before streaming out of the country in a white flood of around 100,000 tons a year worth millions of valuable dollars.

But behind the men in the paddy fields are the research "boffins" who, in the experimental station at Wageningen, have bred a long grain type of rice of a high quality which has impressed experts and eaters all over the world. "A year ago we had some Americans come here to find out the best way to grow our rice and what process should be used," says Overwater.

One of the main achievements at Wageningen has been the development of intensive growing. "We plant in April or May and then harvest in August and September. Then we plant again in October and harvest in March. Now our breeding station is trying to get a strain which will take a shorter time to grow so we can get another crop."

Few of the scientists at Wageningen would consider themselves "heroes", yet that is the reputation they have built up in at least one Central American country. Says Overwater: "Some years ago a man from El Salvador bought some of our seed rice and sold it under his own name. He made a lot of money, but in time the seed degenerated. Local people then came back to us and asked for seed and our men were welcomed like heroes because they had saved the rice industry of that country."

The town itself is dominated by the rice mill and the huge storage bins alongside the river. The cut rice, or paddy, is brought by boat along the intricate canal system that threads the polders to the mill where it is dried to a maximum moisture content of 14½ per cent. There is storage capacity for more than 15,000 tons of paddy before it is husked, milled and polished before starting the four-hour boat trip to the port of New Nickerie and transhipment to ocean freighters.

A short distance from the mill is the heart of the whole Wageningen project — the pumping station. With its special two-way pumping system, the station can inject more water into the polders from the Corantijn when the weather is dry and pump excess water out of the growing areas at the wet season.

Perhaps the most surprising thing about the township itself can be heard every hour on the hour. Standing in the town centre is a carillon, donated by a satisfied West German rice buyer to celebrate his first 100,000 tons of Wageningen rice, which chimes merrily to remind the residents of Holland.

Equally surprising in this self-contained community of all races is the number of children. As the local schoolmaster puts it: "Out of 3,000 people living here, 1,000 are children. We call them the 'second crop'." To cater for this population there is a small, but well-equipped hospital, schools up to high school level, a post office and marketing centre.

Close ties with the parent town of Wageningen in Holland are proved by the local hotel, called De Wereld (The World) after the hostelry in Holland where the 1945 German surrender documents were signed. The size and scope of this achievement in the jungle can possibly best be described by agri-expert Overwater. "We are now growing rice on the Andes."

Millions of years ago the mighty Amazon brought, and still brings, mud from the Andes to form the swampy coastal belt of Suriname. Now Dutch and Suriname skill and tenacity have reduced it to a scene of rural peace in the wilderness.

From Page 63

that someone, somewhere in the vast export area of Bruynzeel Suriname Woodproducts Ltd., which stretches from Australia through America and the Caribbean to Europe, will think nothing of walking all over tomorrow. They call it a floor.

But the hewing of a road into the jungle by the tree-dozer could just as easily signal the birth of a wall. Or even a whole, prefabricated home.

Were the customer to witness the winning of his wood (and he would be welcome to) in the deep tropical forests of Suriname — the bulldozing to gain access to the right trees, the searching to find them among 600 species, the felling, the loading on to mammoth wagons, the floating down river to the sawmill/processing plant in Paramaribo, the cutting, the sawing, the planing, the glueing, and the dispatching — he might well be tempted to don a respectful pair of carpet slippers before crossing that floor again.

But Bruynzeel would be satisfied with a second thought: small enough

BRUYNZEEL KONTAKT

EVEN ITS OWN PAPER . . . EACH MONTH

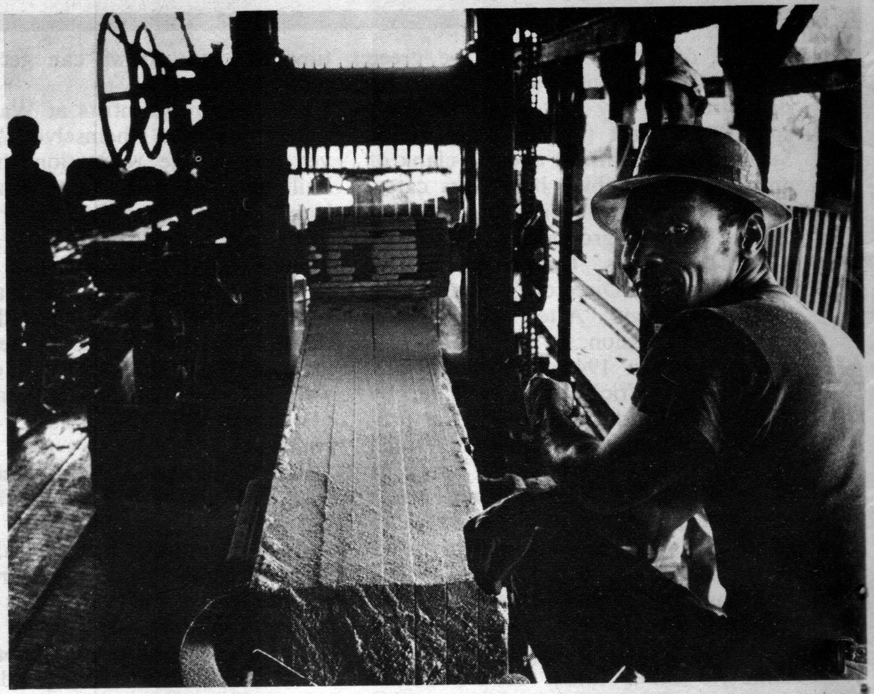
return for the result of a business exercise that has grown, from the acorn of a tiny steam woodworking shop planted in Rotterdam 70 years ago, with the steady thrusting of a strong oak until its branches have spread up and out all over the world.

Expansion began soon after the original factory was razed to the ground by fire in 1919 and the firm moved to Zaandam, where the centre of the ever-widening Bruynzeel activities remains. These activities, and their locations, could fill a supplement of National Geographic magazine: In the Netherlands there are . . . the Bruynzeel door factory (also making cupboards and kitchens); the Bruynzeel joinery; the Bruynzeel floor manufacturing company: the Bruynzeel veneer factory; and Bruynzeel pencil plant.

In the rest of Europe: Door factories in Hamburg and Ussel (France), a kitchen factory in Aalborg (Denmark) and sales offices in Brussels, Paris, Lyons, Nice, Dusseldorf, Hamburg, Zurich and Aylesbury (England). Plus interests in a French plywood company in Gabon. In Brazil, also interests in a plywood factory. And in South Africa, interests in a box, door and flooring factory.

But it is the Suriname operation that encompasses all the adventure of Bruynzeel wood winning. For they know that as long as there is fortune in the foliage, their life depends on the flesh and blood that goes out to do battle with raw nature.

To find these field fighters, with big boots and bigger hearts, you must drive



FROM THE ROUGH, TOUGH COUNTRY, BRUYNZEEL'S WOODEN GOLD GOES TO TOWN . . . TO BE SMOOTHED AND REFINED FOR CIVILISATION

for two hours into Suriname's far east; pick up a dug-out and chug down river for half-an-hour to reach the village of Patamacca, where the Bruynzeel forest operation is centred; then drive hard by Landrover over the company's own roads to the edge of its 1,250,000-acre concession area.

And every day the drive gets longer, as areas are exhausted and the little angry bull keeps thrusting deeper with its roads, to keep up accessibility for the woodcutters.

Meanwhile, back at the Patamacca centre, head of exploitation Jos Paulussen, 36, organises these 40 to 50 woodcutters into a co-ordination with wagon drivers and 80 plant workers, including contracted labour, that guarantees the Paramaribo plant an annual intake of about 60,000 tons of kopie, wana, soemaroeba, baboen and particularly the beautiful angelique wood. These it turns into concrete plywood, parquet flooring, wall panelling sawn and planed timber, plywood, particle board, and prefabricated houses, exporting more than 40,000 cubic metres of wood every year.

Paulussen, who came to Bruynzeel Suriname from Madagascar two years ago, is happy with the challenge of floating all that tonnage townwards on special rafs — "because it simply does not float by itself" — and is no doubt the type of man Willem Bruynzeel was depending on when he dared to set foot in these forests that had seen so many failures.

Says Bruynzeel, 67, now an ex-director but still actively working for the future of Suriname as chairman of the Hague-based Foundation for Promotion of Investments in Suriname: "I decided to start operations in Suriname in 1947 although I knew the forest was not a very good one. But there were two things which impressed me — the ability to transport logs by river, which was better than in any other country, and the willingness of the people to work."

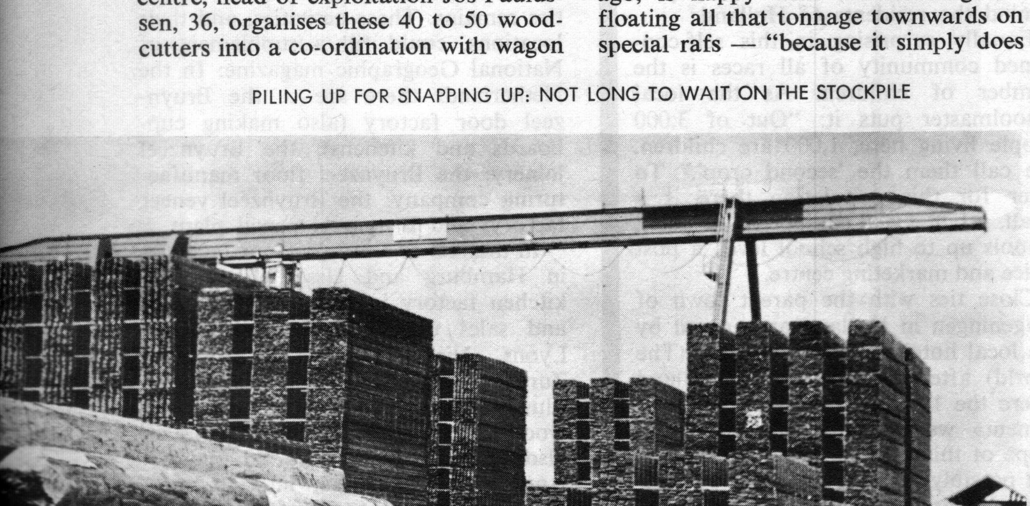
His faith was justified. Now Bruynzeel is the third largest industry in the country, after the bauxite producers, and the present co-directors, Jan den Breejen, 47, and Dick den Hoedt, 41, have every reason to be pleased with the production of their present 2,000 willing workers.

Not that there haven't been setbacks. "In the past few years," they say, "we have had to seek new markets to replace the 50 per cent loss we suffered after the Cuba Incident. But success had been proved by the fact that when Bruynzeel started in the plywood business, it was unheard of in the Caribbean, the main export area — and now the people are plywood conscious.

"Also, Bruynzeel has now joined with 20 other smaller companies in a group to promote even more exports to the Caribbean islands."

It is that kind of sales energy that has made the great Bruynzeel oak from the little Rotterdam acorn.

PILING UP FOR SNAPPING UP: NOT LONG TO WAIT ON THE STOCKPILE



The land

Yes, we have 15 tons an acre

■ Threading a silvery pattern through the dense green foliage, the intricate cable system whirrs and purrs its way to the packing station and the Suriname export cash register rings up yet another sale to the meal tables of the world. The load that the cable carries is that necessary ingredient of all old-time burlesque jokes — bananas. Millions of them every year, adding up to Suriname's second most important, after rice, agricultural export.

With sentiment which verges on from-the-heart appeal, Cecil Small, 40, head of the banana production company near Paramaribo says: "With bananas there is never a dull moment. You have to handle a bunch more carefully than a baby. When people in Europe sit down and peel a banana they never think what a man has gone through to get them there."

The first thing men had to go through in this unique form of farming was to create, in typical Dutch fashion, a polder. Apart from the lush, broad leaves of the banana plants, the scene could have been transplanted from almost anywhere in Holland with dykes and canals controlling the water in the growing area.

This Government scheme was started 11 years ago, after two previous attempts at commercially growing bananas had failed. "This time it looks as if we are going to hang on," says Wageningen University graduate Small who returned to his native Suriname, "just to talk about bananas" but stayed on to run the project.

There are now four main farms in the Paramaribo area, two more in the Nickerie district in Western Suriname, plus some small farmers who sell their produce to the company. Size of the farms range between 400 to 900 acres and employ anything up to 150 people on each farm.

"We have an average production of around 15 tons an acre compared with top production of around 25. But we are concentrating on quality rather than quantity with an annual export figure of some 36,000 tons which we sell direct to the United Fruit Company," explains Small.

When the Suriname banana scheme started few experts believed that it would succeed. "Bananas need sandy loam to grow. I believe we are the only country in the world where they grow in heavy clay soil, made possible by our polder system. The experts would not believe it until they saw it."

Despite considerable mechanisation in the farms, the heavy bunches still have to be cut off the tree by hand — a skilled and exacting job.

The bunch is then lowered gently on

WORKING ON THE WASHING (PRODUCTION) LINE: BEFORE THE BIG BANANA BOX-UP

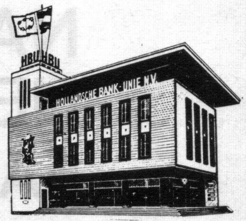
to the shoulders of a "carrier" who takes it to the nearest connection of the cable system. Throughout the day, and sometimes into the night, the swinging bunches are silently delivered to the packing station where they are washed before being boxed ready for shipment.

"But," says Small, "it is not just a question of letting the bananas grow. The plantation has to be sprayed against disease, by airplane, every two weeks. It is vitally important that the plantations be carefully maintained and the crop protected from damage."

Apart from making a profit, this new industry also serves another purpose — the employment of some 700 people, not only in the growing sector but also in the manufacturing of the special boxes in which the bananas are packed.

Although the Dutch Government-financed annual crop earns Suriname

Internationally orientated!



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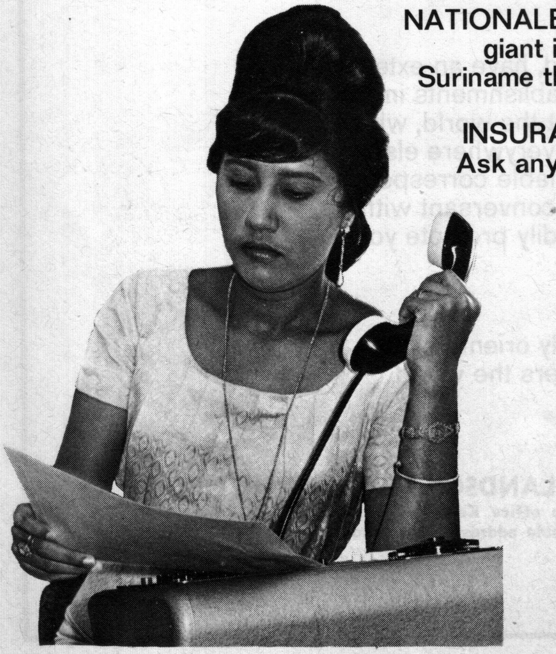
NATIONALE-NEDERLANDEN'S FACE IN SURINAME



NATIONALE,NEDERLANDEN, Holland's giant insurance group, operates in Suriname through its affiliates 'FATUM' and 'THE NETHERLANDS INSURANCE COMPANY OF 1845'. Ask anyone in Suriname; he'll know 'Fatum' and '1845' for all classes of insurance.

FATUM

The Netherlands insurance co of 1845

all classes of insurance also in SURINAME

Noorderkerkstraat 5
Paramaribo Telephone: 6541

almost $2m., there are now high hopes that private investors will follow and open up new areas of banana cultivation.

Hero's vision

■ Hard-headed mechanical engineer Hero van Dijk would probably have laughed out loud if he had heard himself referred to as a visionary. Yet, back in 1933, that is what he was and, fortunately, he lived long enough to see his dream come true.

Van Dijk was sent out to Suriname by the Dutch Government to investigate the possibilities of mechanical rice-growing in the country and also to find ways of increasing the level of rice cultivation. He saw even then that there was a tremendous potential in mechanised rice farming, but for various reasons nothing came of it until 1950 when the vast and vastly successful Wageningen project in West Suriname was opened by Prince Bernhard.

Says one of his three sons, Anne van Dijk, himself something of a pioneer: "Wageningen can be a great help to the Suriname people, but it is from what we did as pioneers that Wageningen has grown."

In and around the Nickerie area in the west of the country small farmers, mainly Hindustani, are growing rice which is mechanically harvested with combine harvesters which they all have the use of — "although it is not a co-operative" stresses van Dijk.

"When we first came here, to the Clarapolder, we had a farm and my father's idea was to have tractor stations for the renting of ploughs, threshers and harvesters. Now we have combines which are rented by the small farmers for harvesting."

A Dutch Government commission, having seen the successful working of the Clarapolder farm run by the van Dijks, recommended that there should be Dutch emigration to develop mechanised farming in the Nickerie area. "The commission also recommended that local people should be allowed to make full use of the land, and that is the situation today."

Today the three van Dijk brothers work together in furthering their late father's ideal — growing the rice, operating their own mill and handling the business side of exports and sales from a Paramaribo office. Although a mechanical engineer himself, Anne van Dijk busied himself with the complex problems of rice-breeding to find a better strain.

"After a lot of crossbreeding I came upon a good variety in 1946. I called it Aurora. But after that I gave half my materials to Wageningen and the Government Agricultural Station, as a result of which we now have this very fine rice which is not only grown here in Suriname, but is also suitable for other Central and South America."

FASHION

The language of legs by Helen's dynamic dancers

■ There will be no language barriers for Helen le Clercq and her six-girl team when they appear in Suriname's Trade Fair amusement show next Autumn. "My Afro-Cuban dances will speak to the people immediately," says this lithe 34-year old redhead, who turned from flamenco to Afro-style overnight after seeing Katherine Dunham dance in Holland.

"Katherine had an enormous effect on me, and I studied her technique from the wings almost day and night, until finally she gave me a chance in her show. Now I can't think of developing without being inspired by her. 'Afro-Beat Dancers', the name of my group of 20, wasn't just chosen by accident."

Only two years ago, Helen was teaching professional dancers her technique at private classes. "Somehow the word got around and I was flooded with eager students. Then came TV spots and now I don't need to look for dancers, they find me. Our classes are always overcrowded."

Dancing herself, she is sometimes cat-like, sometimes a tiger, but always animal. "I cut away all the classic preconceptions about dance. Ballet means moving in sections, Afro-Cuban uses each part of the body separately, but in co-ordination. Watch a cat walk, its fluidity of movement. Anyone can do that, anyone — it's the most natural thing in the world. But, because of our Western European taboos, people stopped moving their bodies; they thought the stomach was disgusting, the hips obscene. All that army training and restriction, and sitting in offices day after day. It kills movement.

"My evening classes for discothequers are packed with kids who really want to have fun in dancing. I think Amsterdam is the hippiest city in Europe now, thanks to my 'gang' who've influenced the dance scene here tremendously. You know the British used to be tops in European nightclubs — but only for Beat, they can't beat us at Soul or Afro-Cuban!"

And as the only white star of the African Ballet of Senegal for some time, Helen knows her steps. In 1966 she explored what she describes as "the Mecca of Modern Dance" — New York — on a government scholarship.

"I did jazz and show-dancing with the greats like Sylvilla Ford, Luigi and Jaime Rogers, and then I switched to Harlem for the rhythm and blues and soul dancing." Here, too, she met her present lead-dancers and instructors, Andy Torres and Glenn Brooks, both of whom had performed with Alvin Ailey and Katherine Dunham. "When you dance with those kind of people you realise how beautiful movement is."

Apart from dancing and travelling — "I was born while my mother was on a trip from Amsterdam to Utrecht and I seem to have been moving around ever since" — Helen is a very talented designer. "All the costumes for the 16 Suriname shows, plus our performances in Curaçao, Trinidad and the Dutch Antilles, are my own design, though inspired by native costumes."

Although Helen admits modestly that she's not yet as well-known as Dunham, her international group — "We're more Dutch than anything, but I also have one South African, one New Yorker and two Chinese girls, boys from New York and one from Suriname" — is quickly becoming famous on European TV shows. Her publicity brochure offers "to put dynamite into your TV commercials" and her Suriname programme of jazz, musical, soul and Afro-Cuban should certainly explode the Latin theory that Europeans don't know how to dance.

ALL CHANGE . . . INTO SOMETHING TROPICAL

■ While the audience's feet are still tapping to Helen le Clercq's rhythmic dancing in Suriname, her girls will be hurriedly changing to appear, this time as fashion models.

Succesful designer and Amsterdam boutique owner Sophie van Kleef, 27, intends to show there exactly what Dutch fashion can do for girls in tropical climates. "I aim to use as much of Suriname's own materials as possible," she says. "Plus batiste, silk, linen — all those natural materials which go so well with the sun. The designs will be simple: pants-suits, dresses, coats and fun hats. Colours will be white, beige and tropical flower shades, plus a lot of brown. Perhaps the Suriname girls aren't very used to it, but I think it looks marvellous on tanned skins."

While Sophie is already planning her designs for the show next Autumn, song-writer and singer husband Johnny Lyon is busy with his Suriname programme. "He was an enormous success there last year," says Sophie. "And it's due to him that I've been asked for a fashion show. He talked about my work and people came over to Holland to see it. I finished up with a contract, and so did he."

Johnny himself will be a singing advertisement for his wife's talents.

One-girl campaign

■ Male customers find that looking at her can be therapeutic enough, but masseuse-beautician Vera Tjong, 36, takes her work too seriously to be satisfied with a mere presence. She operates a battery of gadgets as if it were a busy day at Cape Kennedy, and is running a one-girl campaign to abolish surplus Suriname fat.

POSITIVELY-THERAPEUTIC VERA
Why be shy?

In a country that could take any

three average figures and roll them all up in one tape measure, it's surprising to hear her claim that "girls are getting too big around these parts." The parts in question being the bottoms.

Vera (looking 10 years younger than her 36) is the only fully-equipped beautician in the country, with facilities at her Paramaribo parlour for facial treatments, make-up, manicure and hand-massage, pedicure, body massage ("it makes some men a little shy but I just want to work") and sauna baths. Many of her customers are the wives of top politicians — and the top politians themselves.

"Relaxation," she says, "is important for people who live long hours on their nerves, worrying and making decisions, and these treatments can send them home feeling on top of the world, ready for anything: like they had never been alive before."

All part of Vera's sooth service is a dash of Bach with your bath, and as you relax, it's good to reflect that, while the new Suriname is developing fast, she is seeing to it that development is curbed where it is least needed.

All geared up and nowhere to go...yet

■ She's got the miniest mini under the Suriname sun and a houseful of big hopes. Here a watchband, there a bracelet, everywhere a pile of rings, earrings, stockings, dress-making material, block prints and dies from India, and even display boxes newly hand-painted, ready and waiting . . .

Waiting for her to plant a chunk of Greenwich Village in Paramaribo. For Judy Testen's problem is not a-boutique-with-no-stock, it's stock-with-no-boutique. But with the kind of pluck that it takes to solo, not to mention mini, into the maxi-world on the fringe of a jungle, this 27-year-old New Yorker says: "I'll find a place. All I need is time."

Every house, store, garage or chicken coop that shuts up shop in the town can count on a visit from Judy before you can say to let. And every cross-off gets her nearer to a strike.

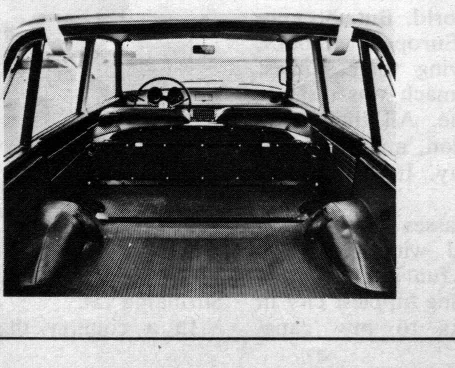
Judy, a painter and sculptress whose work has been shown in New York galleries, has always been interested in fashion but only recently began to put her ideas down on paper. When the boutique — wherever it is — opens, she intends to sell styles "based on anything that's in, but with either Indian, English oror Suriname influences".

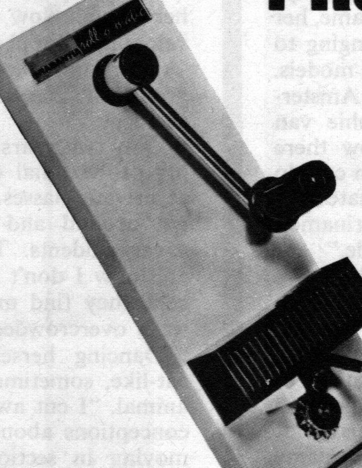
Called "Kaleidoscope", it will be the first boutique of its kind in the country and, though much of the merchandise she is importing comes from New York, the Suriname influence in her own designs should please the increasing number of gift-hunting tourists. Add to that her pretty face behind the counter, and the owner-to-be can safely say that she's also a success-to-be.

NEW PRODUCTS

First of a Holland Herald series - with Dutch products from cars to can-openers

■ Van Doorne's in Eindhoven have now produced a stationcar version of the lively Daf 55. Priced, in Holland at $1,943, the stationcar offers the same fast pick-up — 0—30 m.p.h. in five seconds, 0—48 m.p.h. in 12 seconds — cruising speed at 81 m.p.h., and automatic drive of the Daf 55 de luxe.





■ "Brabantia", producers of steel household aplpiances, of Aalst, North Brabant, have announced intentions to place their slick new "Roll-o-matic" wall can opener on the export market. Driven by four nylon gear wheels, it cuts quickly and cleanly. And with its modern, streamlined design, it promises not only to be a can-opener, but also an eye-opener, in the kitchen.

GOINGS ON

ART

to Dec. 8. Collection of paintings sculpture, national history, Asiatic art, collected by A. Schwarz open every day 10. a.m. to 5.0 p.m. in the Rijksmuseum, **Amsterdam.** Plus the incomparable Rembrandt collection etc.

8 Nov. to 26 Dec. Holland's abstractist Karel Appel. Recent reliefs in the Stedelijk Museum, **Amsterdam,** home of the city's modern art.

Dec.—Jan. The Dutch Poster. A survey from 1890 to today; this exhibition goes with the publication of the book "The history of the Dutch poster" by D. Dooyes and P. Brattinga, based on the poster collection of the Stedelijk Museum. Museum Fodor, **Amsterdam.**

MUSIC

4, 7, 11, 18, 21 Dec. Concerts by the Resident Orchestra at the Kurzaal, **Scheveningen.**

9 Dec. Royal Musical Conservatory pupils' Concert, 8.0 p.m., Kurzaal, **Scheveningen.**

10 and 13 Dec. Youth concert by the Resident Orchestra in the Kurzaal, **Scheveningen.**

14, 15 and 20 Dec. Concert Hall Orchestra, Kurzaal, **Scheveningen.**

17 Dec. Chamber music by the Dutch Brass Ensemble, leader Edo de Waart, Odeon, 8.0 p.m., **Zwolle.**

19 Dec. Special concert with solo performances by Jaring Walta and Maurits van de Berg, violin, Jan Brussen, conductor. Buiten Societeit, **Zwolle.**

19 Dec. Israeli Music Ensemble, City Theatre, **Maastricht.**

SPORT

12-19 Dec. It's 144 hours of hard pedalling for international competitors in the Six-Day Cycle Race. RAI Exhibition Halls, **Amsterdam.**

ST. NICOLAAS ARRIVES
Special for children

THEATRE

13 Dec. Dutch Dance Theatre. Circus Theatre, 8.15 p.m., **Scheveningen.**

13 and 14 Dec. The New Comedy, 8.15 p.m., Paviljoen Theatre, **Scheveningen.**

17 Dec. "Adam and Eva" cabaret, City Theatre, **Heerlen.**

17-20 Dec. Theatre Group Studio in "O-O" by Sandro Key Aaberg, Paviljoen Theatre, 8.15 p.m., **Scheveningen.**

26 Dec. Scapino Ballet Company give a special performance at the City Theatre, **Maastricht.**

27 Dec. South Netherlands Opera "Rigoletto", City Theatre, **Heerlen.**

MISCELLANY

4 Dec. Special day for children, St. Nicolaas arrives by boat from Spain and meets them 2.0. p.m., Kurzaal, **Scheveningen.**

31 Dec. Another year gone by. Celebrate or commiserate St. Sylvester's evening in the Hotel Kurhaus, **Scheveningen.**

Netherlands national tourist offices (ANVV) worldwide

The Netherlands - The Hague-4A, 38 Parkstraat, Tel. 070-183300
Belgium and Luxemburg - Brussels-4, 41 Wetenschapsstraat (41 Rue de la Science), Tel. 0932-2 124409
France - Paris-2, 91 Rue de Richelieu
Great Britain and Ireland - London S.W. 7, 38 Hyde Park Gate, Tel. KNIghtsbridge 6781/2
West Germany - Cologne-5, 84 Schildergasse, Tel. 0949-221 215101
1-Berlin-12, 39II Schlüterstrasse, Tel. 8817822
Sweden, Norway, Finland and Denmark - 11156 Stockholm-C, Kungsgatan 29VI, Tel. 230420
Austria - A1010-Wien, 12 Stubenbastei, Tel. 526761
Switzerland and North Italy - 8001-Zürich, 58 Talstrasse, Tel. 276127
United States - New York-10017 N.Y., 605 Fifth Avenue, Tel. Plaza 8-1866/7
United States (West Coast) - San Francisco-94105 (Cal.), 681 Market Street, Room 941, Tel. SU-1-3387
Canada - Toronto 1, Ontario, 327 Bay Street. Tel. 416 - 364 - 5339

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TALKING BUSINESS

HOLLAND HERALD, with the help of the Netherlands Chambers of Commerce in London and New York and The Netherlands Council for Trade Promotion, offers this free marketing service to businessmen . . . every month.

For your reply

To Marketing Department,
Holland Herald,
Keizersgracht 125,
Amsterdam-C, Holland.

From ....

....

....

Please send more information on trade enquiry No. ....

HH 544 - Finnish businessman, 37, moving to Holland in December, seeks position marketing management, export sector. Languages: English, German, Dutch, Swedish, Finnish. Ten years' export experience.

H 91 - Manufacturer of baby/infant shoes seeks sales possibilities in France and US. Inquiries from other countries are also invited.

H 92 - Manufacturer wants to contact importers in Denmark and Norway of modern sealants for the building industry; also importers in Africa of adhesives for the shoe, shoe repair and plastics industries.

H 93 - Manufacturer of unique footcare preparations for safe and painless removal of callouses and corns, and effective control of perspiring feet, looks for importers/distributors in many countries. Enormous sales possibilities; no qualitative competition.

H 94 - Exporter of Diesel generating sets wants to contact importers able to sell and handle after-sales service in Thailand, Iran, the Philippines, Chile, Columbia, Angola and Libya.

H 95 - Manufacturer of Terlenka-Trevira clothes for children and teenagers seeks contact with importers and agents.

H 96 - Chinchilla breeders' club seeks export agents or buyers worldwide.

H 97 - Manufacturer of old Dutch gift and souvenir articles in silverplate such as spoons, forks, letter openers, cigarboxes etc. seeks importers all over the world. Illustrations on request.

H 98 - Manufacturer of shackles and wire rope thimbles (ships' hardware) all different standards, seeks importers or agents all over the world.

H 99 - Exporter of plastic storage bins, cabinets and industrial supplies seeks export outlets.

H 100 - Manufacturer of machinery for the building industry, specialised in mobile building cranes, wishes to contact agents.

L 163 - British importer wishes to obtain canned meats, canned poultry, canned fruits, canned vegetables and canned fish from the Netherlands.

L 164 - British engineering company with many years experience of designing, developing and manufacturing special purpose machines in the light to medium range, wishes to extend its activities and is interested in the manufacture under licence of machines or products, from The Netherlands.

L 160 - Dutch firm wishes to appoint agent in the UK for the sale of lactose, butter-oil, delactosed whey powder and skimmed milk powder.

L 161 - Dutch firm wishes to appoint agent in the UK for the sale of outboard motors, 4 BHP 2-stroke full automatic unit, built according to the best principles of mass production.

L 162 - Dutch firm offers for sale in the UK: masonry drills, carbide tipped in all sizes up to 24" length.

L 165 - Established Dutch international transport company, specialising in fast truck groupage service of all kinds of goods Holland-Switzerland v.v., as well as transport of containerized goods Basle-UK v.v., via Rotterdam, has storage space within easy reach of Rotterdam Dock and in Basle. Clearing of goods in Rotterdam and Basle by trained staff.

L 166 - Dutch engineering office, specializing in commercial and industrial buildings and hotels, motels, etc. as turn-key projects, offers its service to UK firms, planning new subsidiaries in the Netherlands and other European countries.

L 157 - Dutch firm seeks agency for British articles, for sale in Art and Craft shops.

L 168 - Dutch firm seeks agency for British glassware, china, earthenware and luxury goods.

L 169 - The Dutch subsidiary of a well-known British electrical appliance manufacturer requires additional British products of a similar nature for marketing in Holland. Part assembly or part manufacture would be considered.

L 170 - British firm seeks agency for comprehensive range of modern furniture, furnishings and domestic commodities from Holland, suitable for whole sealing and retailing.

L 171 - Old-established British company of importers and wholesalers wishes to act as agents for Dutch producers of frozen and wet fish and frozen foods. Modern storage facilities available.

NY 571 - Dutch briar pipes and other smokers' articles, for direct delivery from manufacturer to the US.

NY 573 - Exporter of Dutch commercial oil paintings seeks additional outlets.

NY 575 - Importer in Boston, Mass., wishes to represent a Netherlands manufacturer of housewares and kitchen wares of contemporary design.

NY 579 - New York trading firm in non-ferrous and exotic metals in prime, scrap and alloy fooms seeks representatives in The Netherlands.

NY 581 - Pennsylvania company wishes to export complete line of coordinated bathroom accessories made of lowered vinyl prints.

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